

# REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE

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✓ Spreadsheet  
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MEMORANDUM FOR PRR (In-House Publication)

24 May 1999

FROM: PROI (TI) (STINFO)

SUBJECT: Authorization for Release of Technical Information, Control Number: AFRL-PR-ED-TP-FY99-0107  
Bill Larson, "Identification and Condensation of Cyclic C<sub>6</sub> and Cyclic C<sub>8</sub> in Solid Argon and Matrix-Isolated  
Boron/Carbon"

(Public Release)

Presentation

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**Identification and condensation of cyclic C<sub>6</sub> and cyclic C<sub>8</sub>  
in solid argon**

**Characterization of matrix isolated B<sub>J</sub>C<sub>n-J</sub> J=0, 1, 2; n=3-11  
in solid argon**

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June 8, 1999**

20021121 036

**Rocket Science**

$$\frac{m_{final}}{m_{initial}} = \exp - \frac{\Delta V}{g I_{sp}}$$

$$I_{sp} = \frac{1}{g} \sqrt{2(h_{propellant} - h_{exit})}$$

*h = enthalpy per unit mass*

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*Is there a point  
to this chart?  
a relationship  
between 1st & 2nd  
of that is relevant?*

# SSME



Rockwell International

Rocketdyne Division

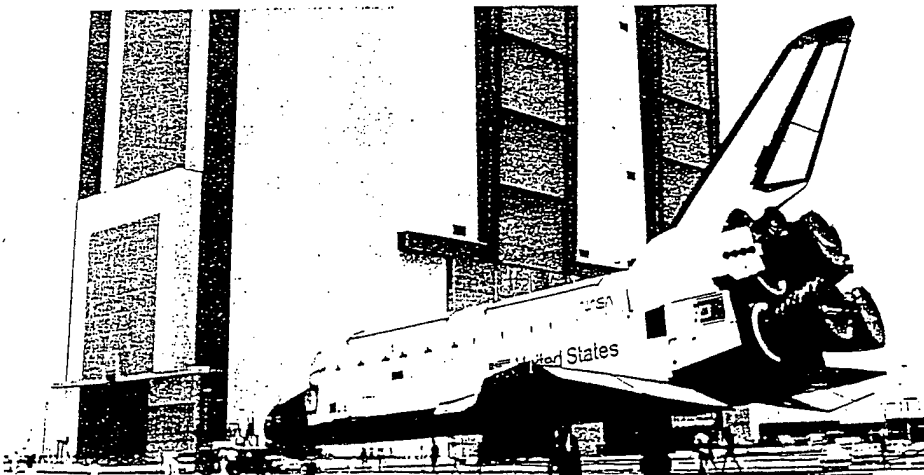
## SPACE SHUTTLE MAIN ENGINE

The Space Shuttle Main Engine (SSME) was developed expressly for use on America's Space Shuttle. Using a mixture of liquid oxygen and liquid hydrogen, the SSME can attain a maximum thrust level (in vacuum) of 512,300 pounds at 109% power level. The regeneratively cooled engine also features high performance turbopumps for propellant and oxidizer that develop 77,310 horsepower and 29,430 horsepower, respectively. Ultra-high-pressure operation of the pumps and combustion chamber allows expansion of all hot gases through a high-area-ratio exhaust nozzle to achieve efficiencies never previously attained in a production rocket engine. These advantages allow a heavier payload to be carried without increasing launch vehicle size.

### SPACE SHUTTLE MAIN ENGINE PERFORMANCE (FULL POWER LEVEL)

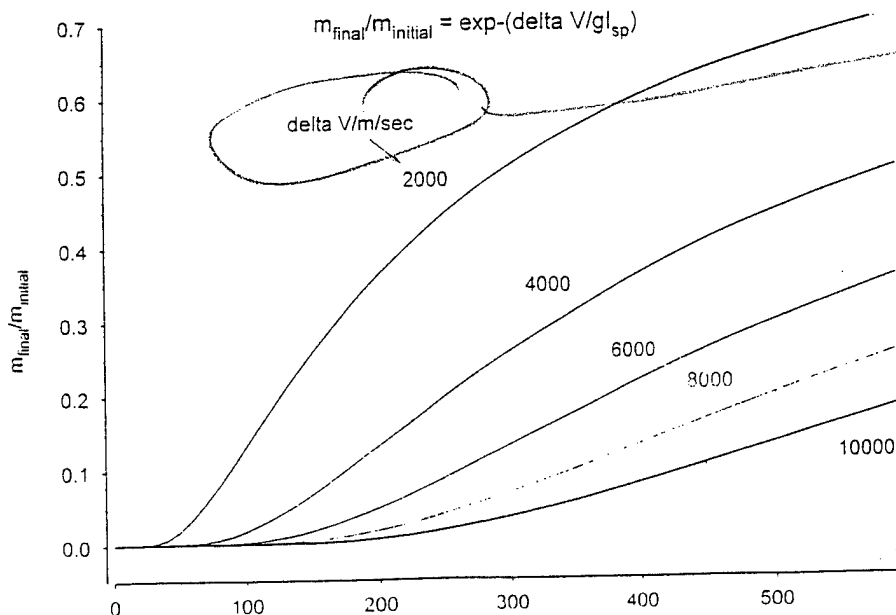


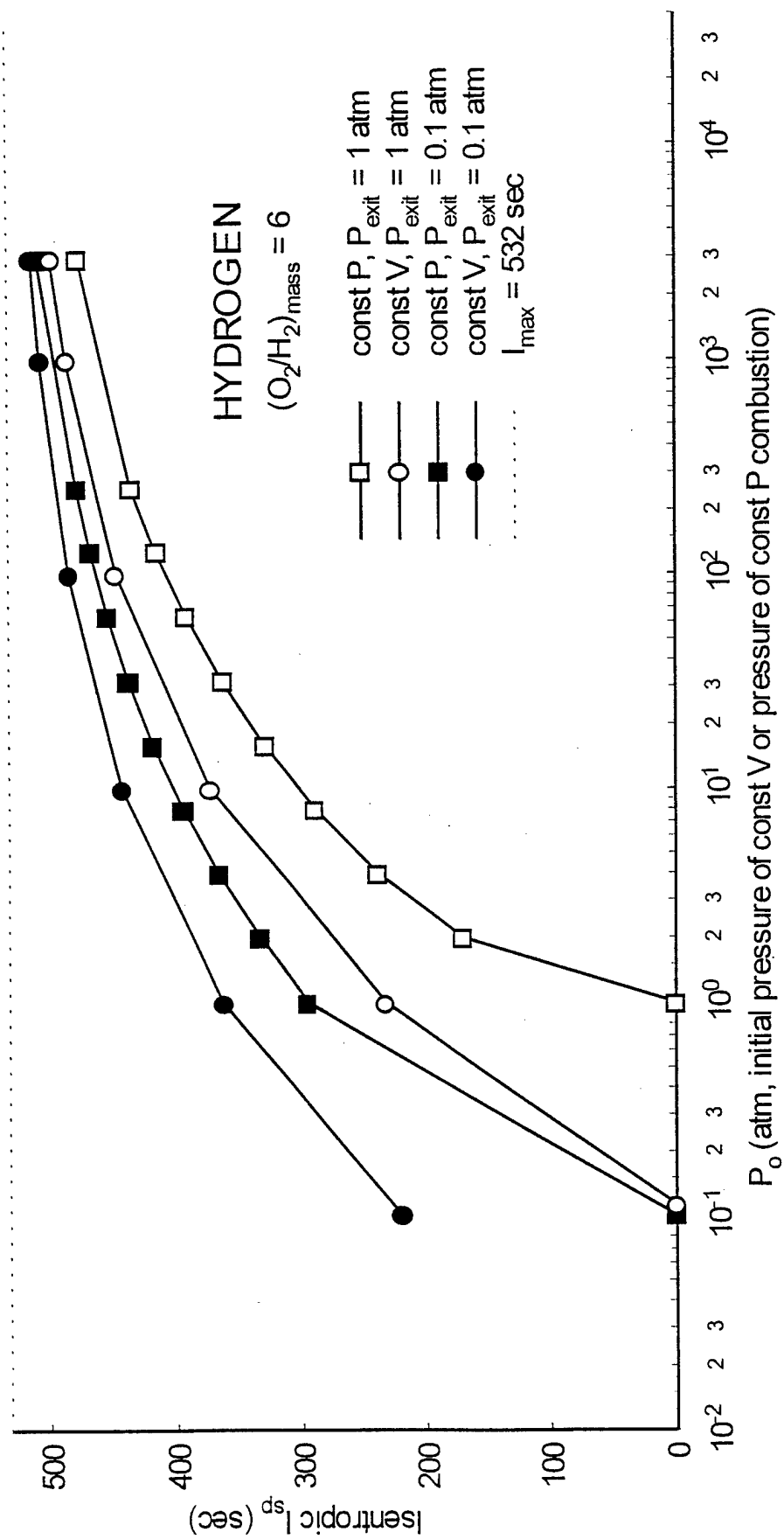
Maximum Thrust: (109% Power Level)	
At Sea Level.....	408,750 pounds
In Vacuum.....	512,300 pounds
Throttle Range.....	65% - 109%
Pressures:	
Hydrogen Pump Discharge.....	7,040 psia
Oxygen Pump Discharge.....	8,070 psia
Chamber Pressure.....	3,260 psia
Specific Impulse (In Vacuum).....	453.5 seconds
Power: 5.07 GW (Exhaust, in vacuum)	
High Pressure Pumps	
Hydrogen.....	77,310 horsepower
Oxygen.....	29,430 horsepower
Area Ratio.....	77.5:1
Weight: 6,367 x 10 <sup>3</sup> kg/w	6,990 pounds
Mixture Ratio (O/F).....	6.0:1
Dimensions:.....	168 in. long/96 in. wide
Propellants:	
Fuel.....	Liquid Hydrogen
Oxidizer.....	Liquid Oxygen



For more information contact: ELV Propulsion/Rockwell International/Rocketdyne Division/6633 Canoga Ave./  
Canoga Park/CA/91303/(818)700-6027

Pub. 571-M-80b New 1-7





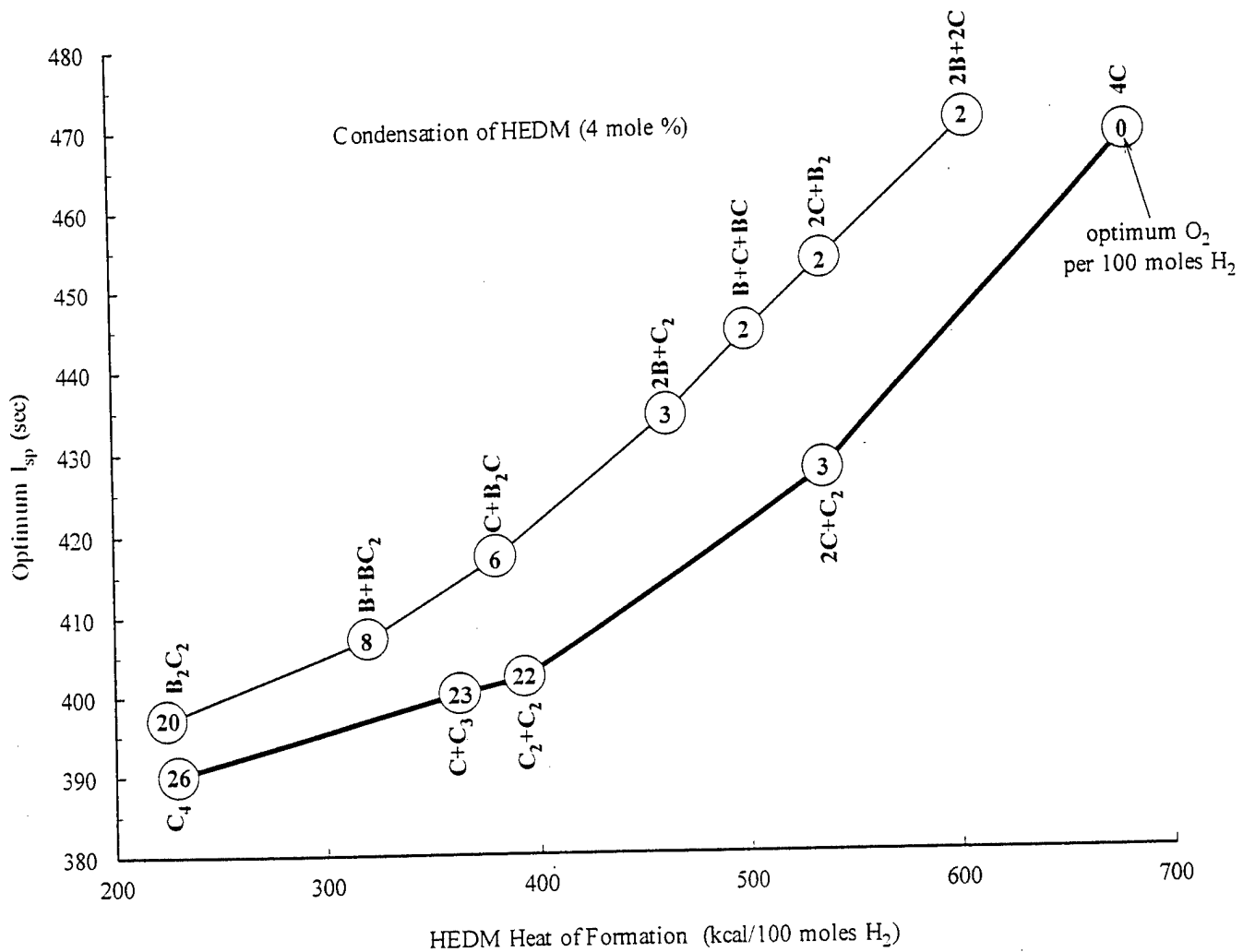


Figure 1. Specific impulse of HEDM containing 4 mole percent equivalent atom density in solid hydrogen with various stages of condensation. Numbers inside circles denote the optimum moles of  $O_2$  per 100 moles of  $H_2$  that produces the maximum  $I_{sp}$  for the indicated compositions. The calculations are based on the standard rocket operating conditions, 1000 psi combustion pressure and 1 atm nozzle exit pressure, which produce 389 sec with liquid oxygen/liquid hydrogen propellant. The propellant composed of 4 mole percent C-atoms produces maximum  $I_{sp}$  with no oxygen. If the atoms condense to 1 mole percent  $C_4$ , the  $I_{sp}$  drops to the baseline 389 sec value.

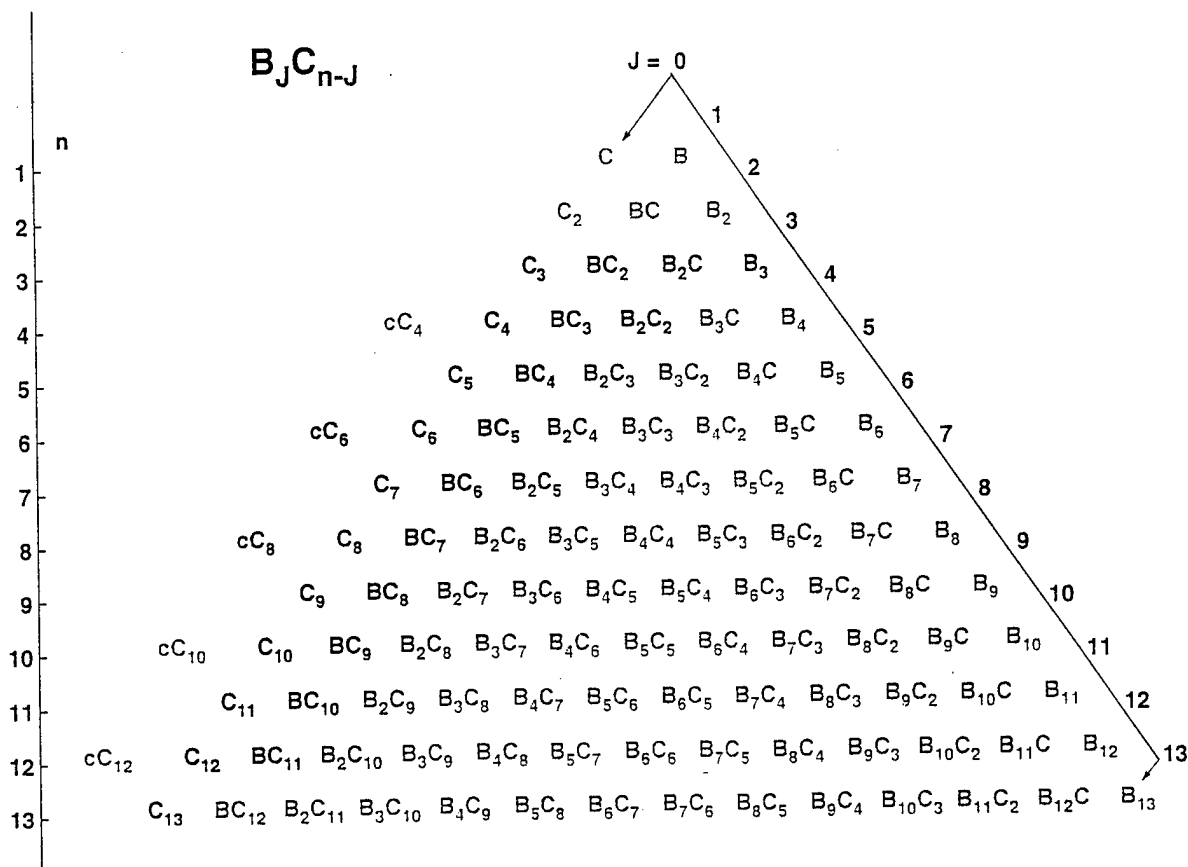
## Objective - 5% atoms in cryogenic matrix

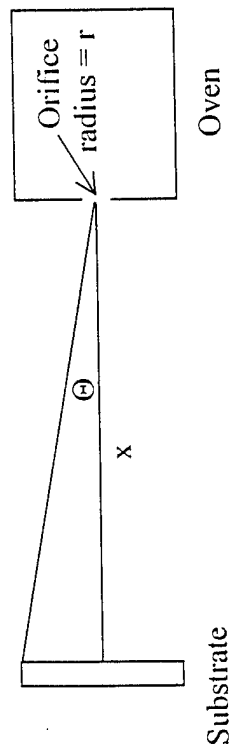
### Approach

1. FTIR spectroscopy of  $B_J C_{n-J}$  clusters isolated in 10 K argon matrix
2. Ab-initio calculations of cluster
  - (a) normal mode frequencies and frequency shifts of their isotopomers
  - (b) infrared absorption intensities ( $\text{km mol}^{-1}$ )
3. Measurement of cluster distributions produced upon deposition and after annealing). Absolute column densities ( $\text{molecules cm}^{-2}$ ) from Beer's Law

$$\langle \rho_i l \rangle = \frac{A_{\text{exp}}}{I_{\text{theory}}} N$$

$$A_{\text{exp}} = - \int \ln \left[ \frac{E_t(\nu)}{E_0(\nu)} \right] d\nu$$





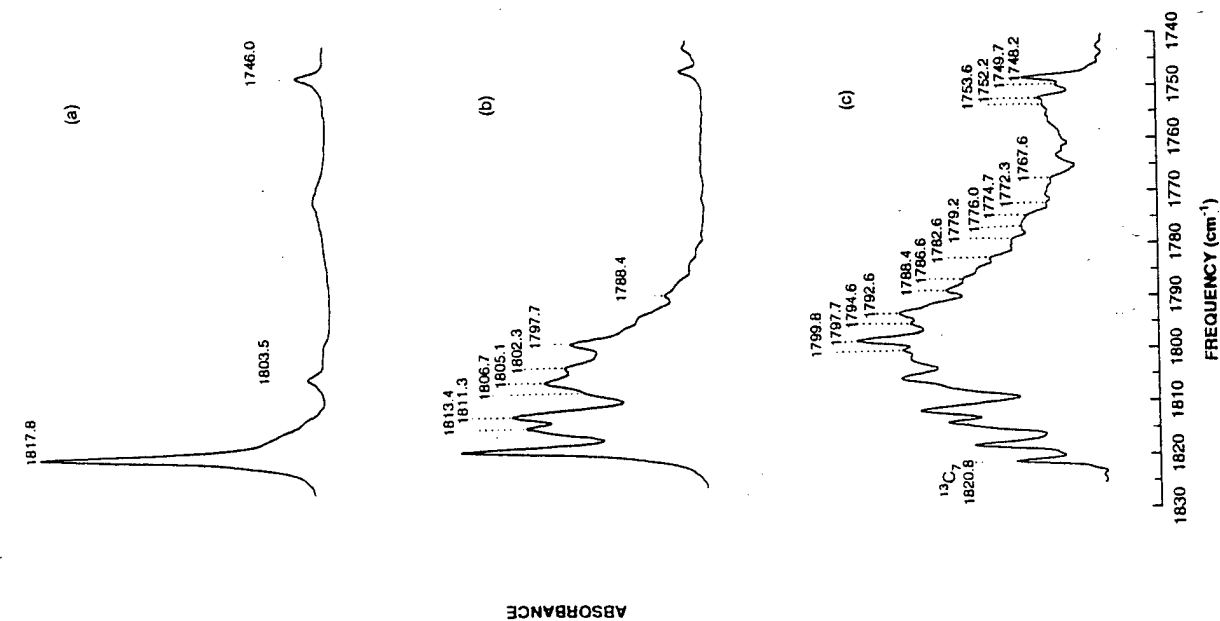
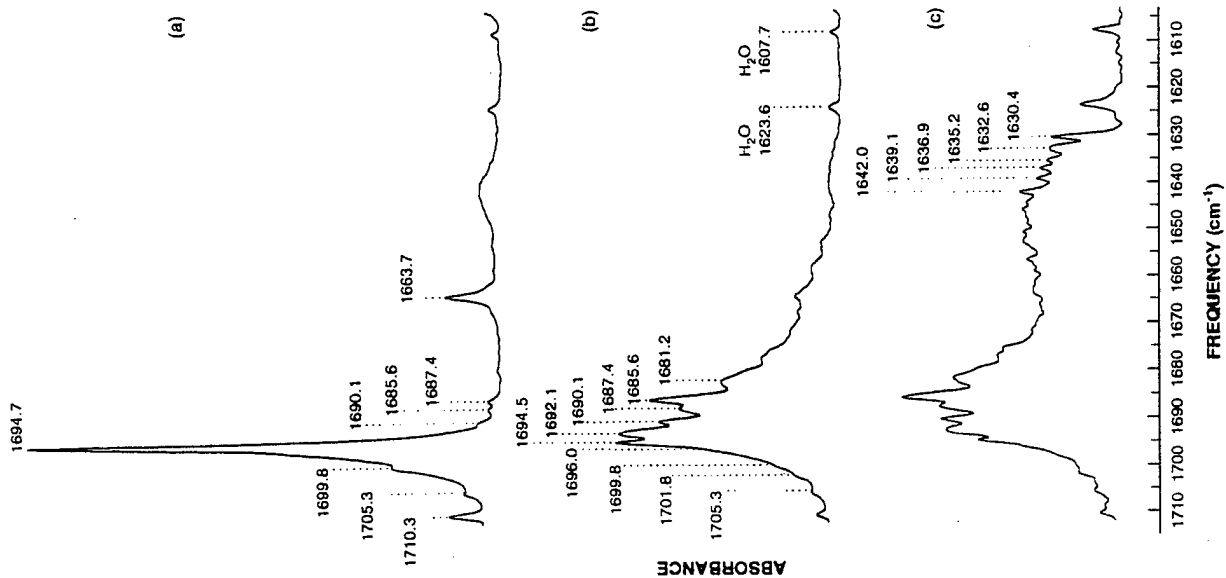
$$(1) \quad Q_{\text{atom}}(\Theta, x) = \frac{1}{4} \rho \bar{c} a \frac{\cos^3 \Theta}{\pi x^2} \quad (2) \quad Q_{\text{rad}}(\Theta, x) = \sigma T^4 a \frac{\cos^3 \Theta}{\pi x^2}$$

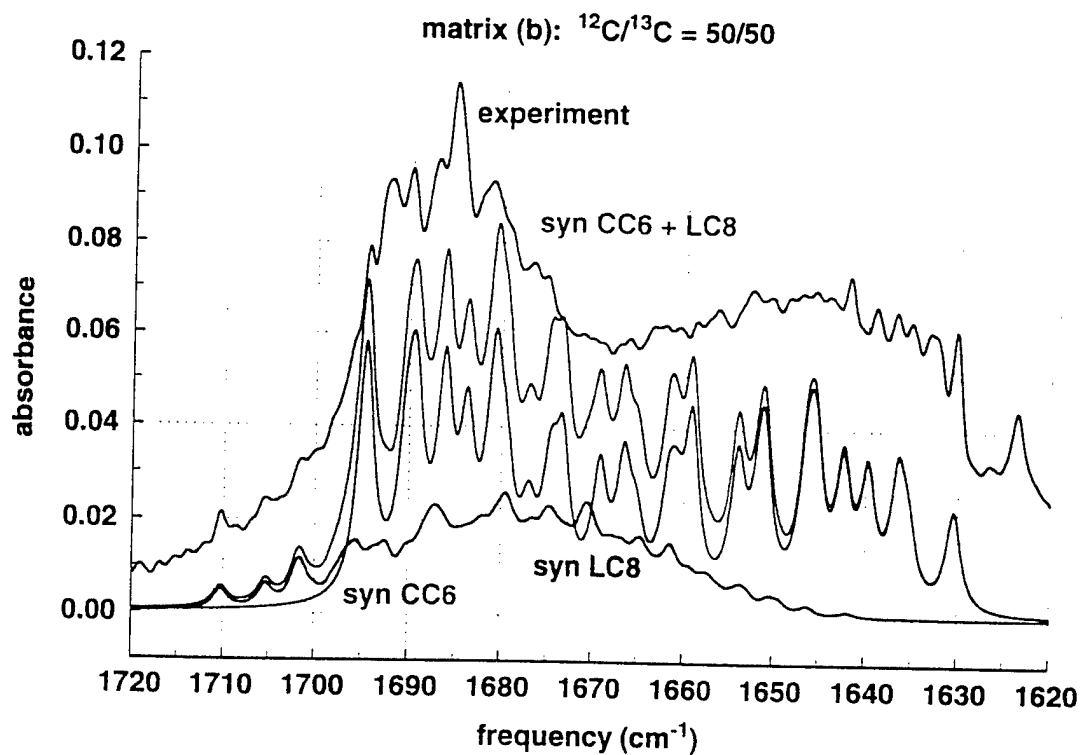
Table I. Properties of a boron evaporation oven<sup>(a)</sup>,  $r = 0.05$  cm,  $\theta = 0$

	x = 10 cm		x = 20 cm
P (Torr)	0.01	0.1	1
T (K)	2409	2631	2898
$\rho$ (#/cm <sup>3</sup> )	$4.01 \times 10^{13}$	$3.67 \times 10^{14}$	$3.33 \times 10^{15}$
$\bar{c}$ (cm/s)	$2.13 \times 10^5$	$2.24 \times 10^5$	$2.35 \times 10^5$
Evap rate (#/s)	$1.68 \times 10^{16}$	$1.61 \times 10^{17}$	$1.53 \times 10^{18}$
Evap rate (mg/hour)	1.11	10.6	101
$\lambda$ (cm) <sup>(b)</sup>	100.0	10.9	1.20
Kn = $\lambda/2r$	1000	109	12.0
$Q_{\text{atom}}$ (#/cm <sup>2</sup> s)	$5.37 \times 10^{13}$	$5.13 \times 10^{14}$	$4.89 \times 10^{15}$
$Q_{\text{rad}}$ (mW/cm <sup>2</sup> )	4.74	6.75	9.93
			$1.17 \times 10^{16}$
			3.78

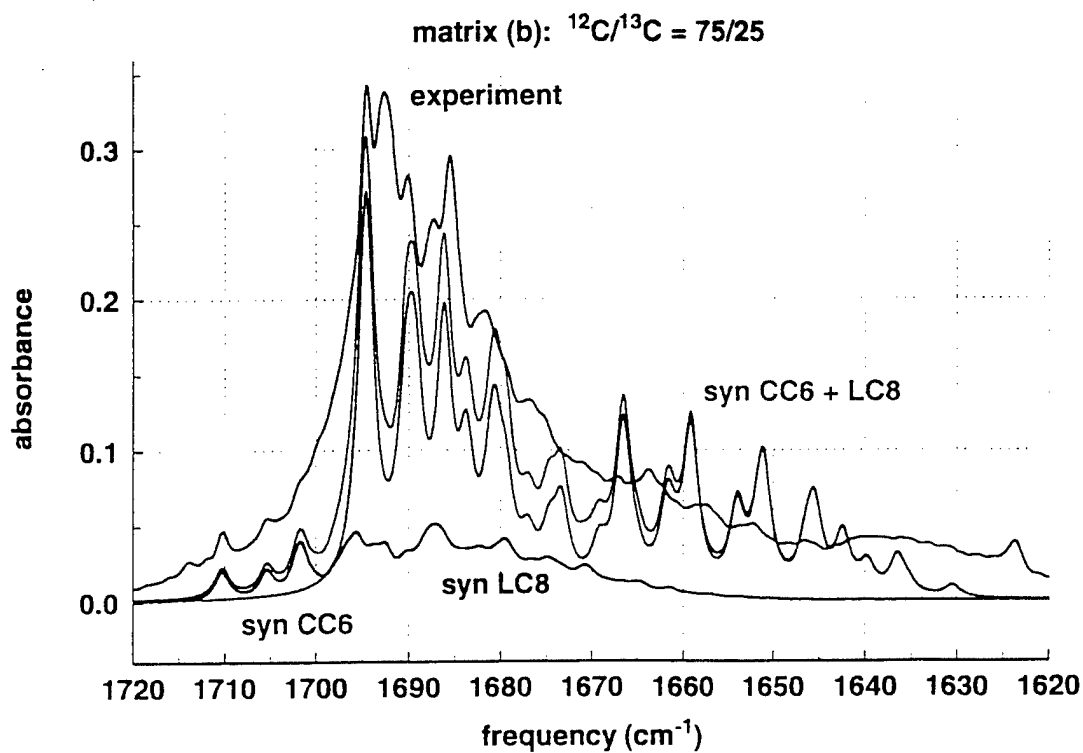
(a) Based on vapor pressure data from Nesmeyanov's (1963) compilation, "Vapor Pressure of the Elements."  
 (b) Mean free path based on a collision diameter of  $1.59 \times 10^{-8}$  cm for boron + boron [Moelwyn-Hughes (1961), p25].



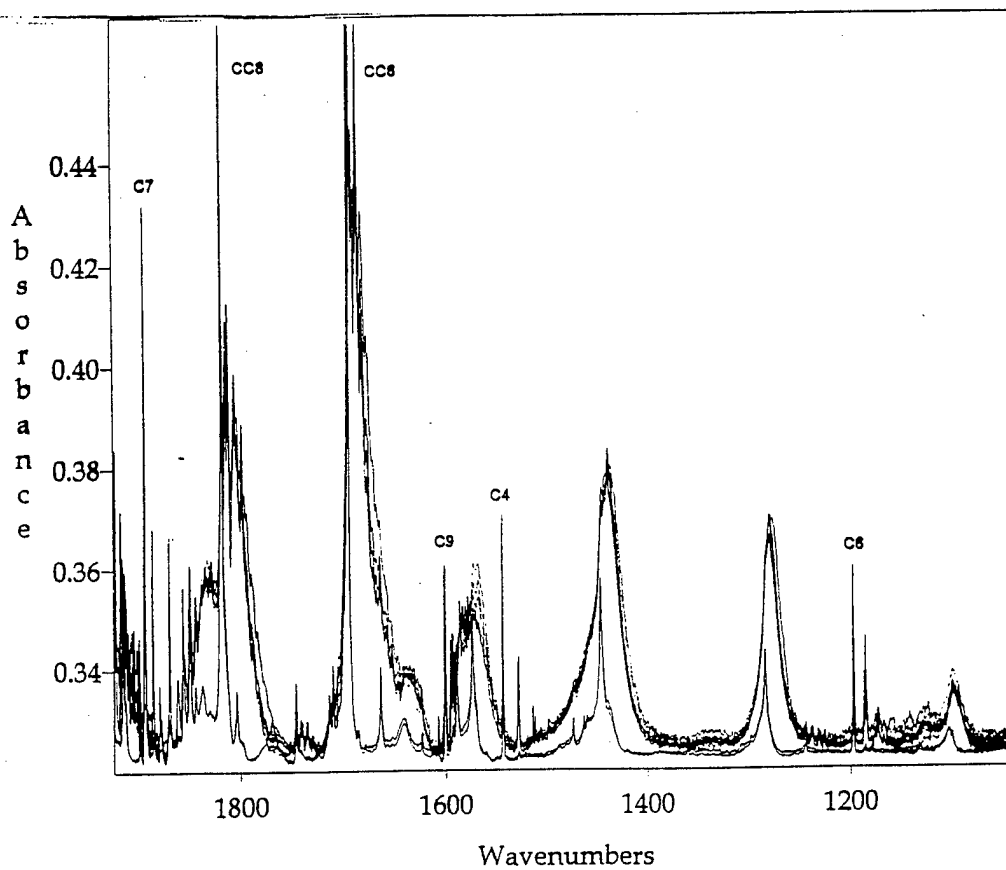
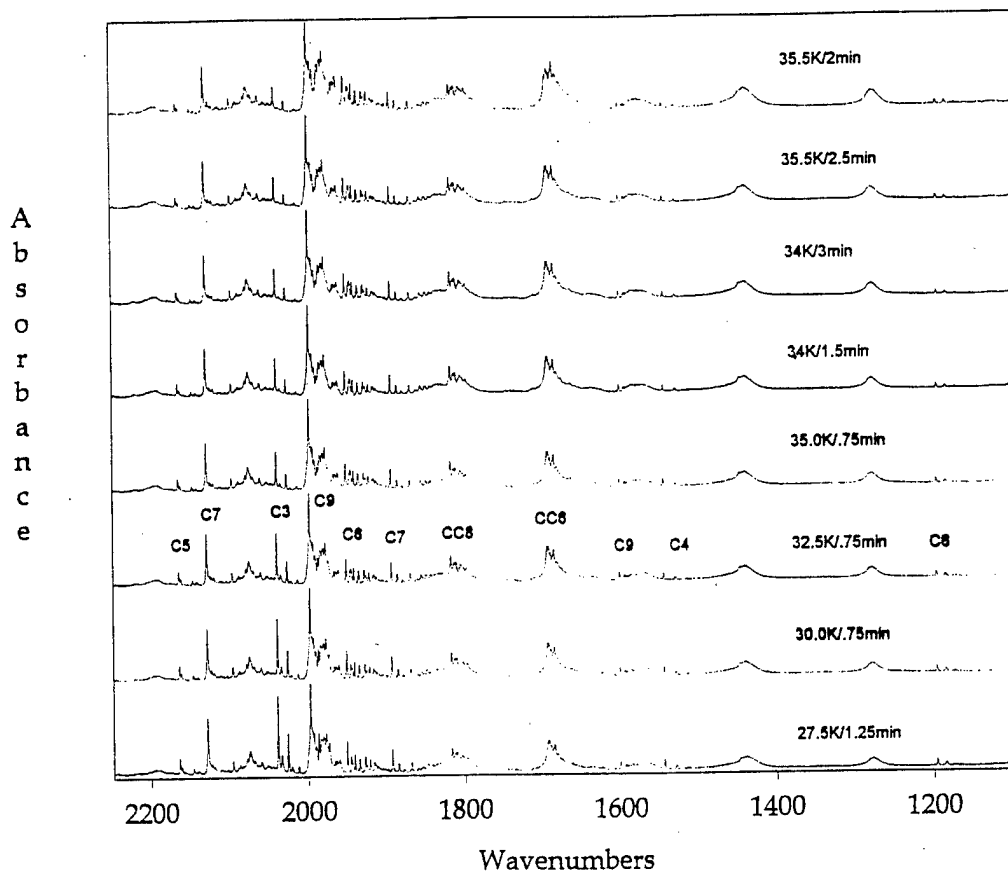


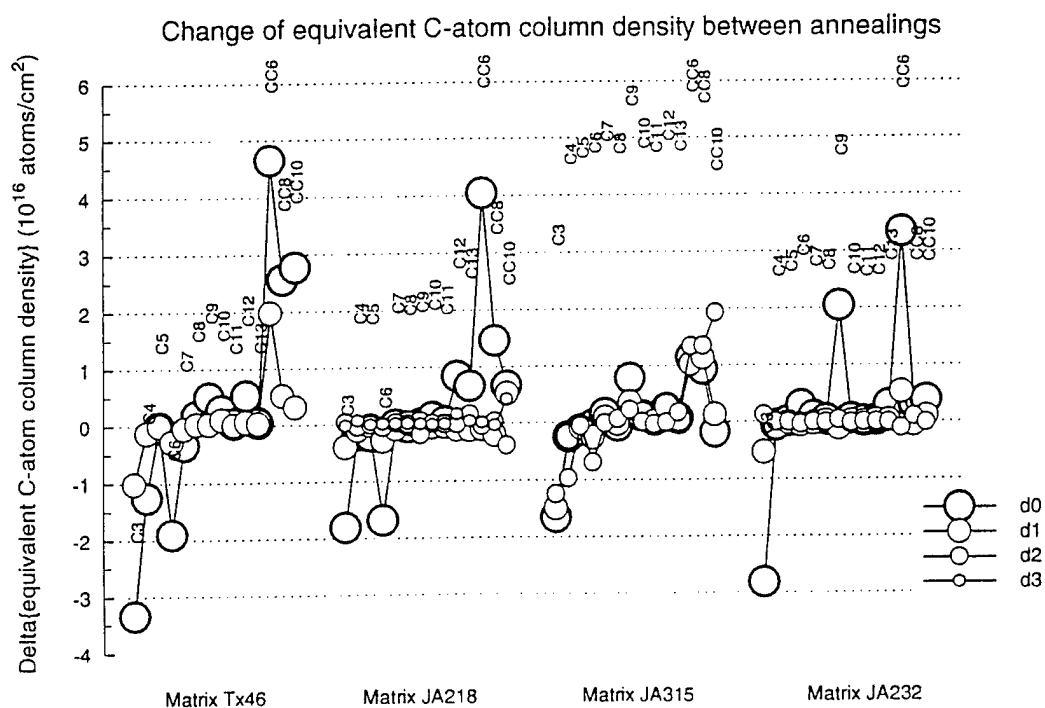
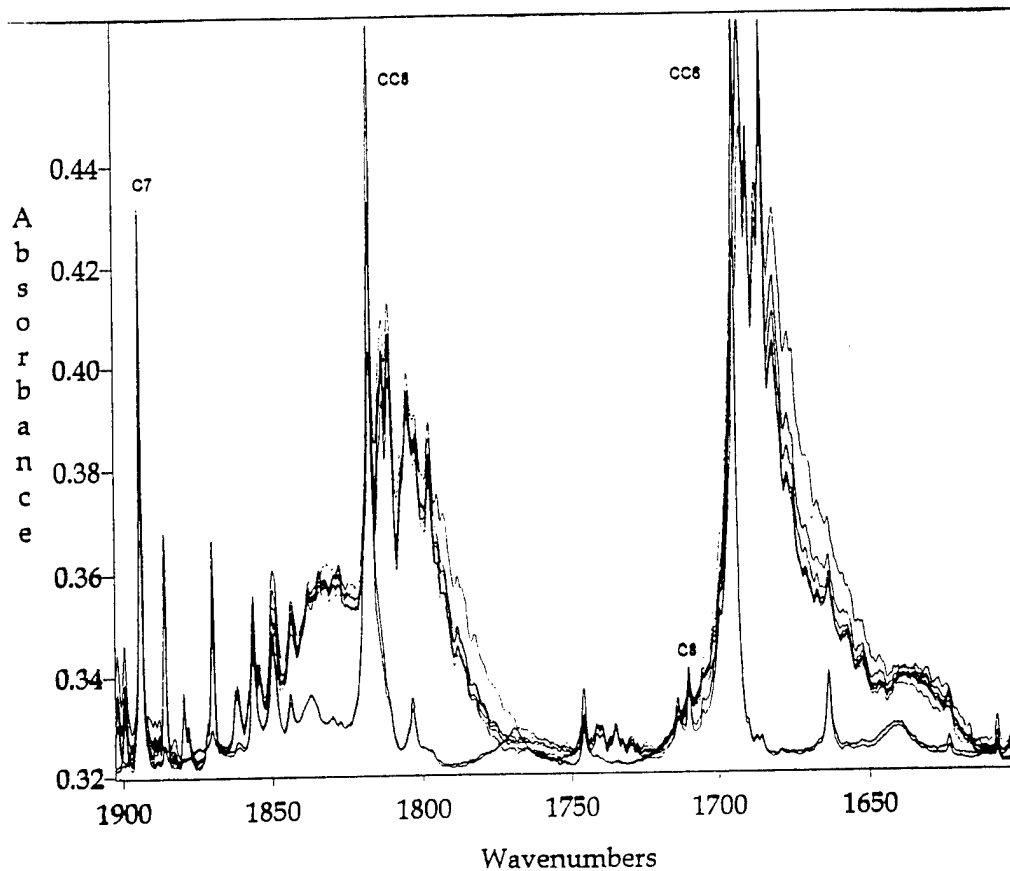


syn CC6 + LC8

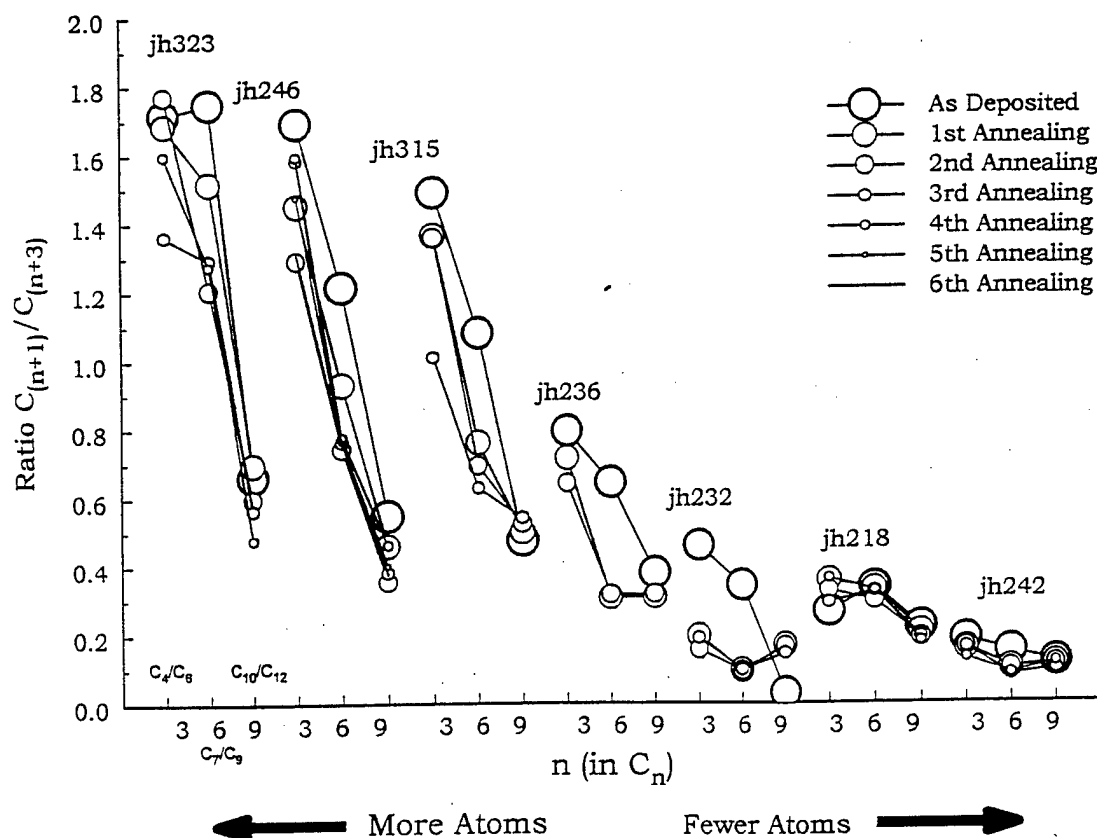


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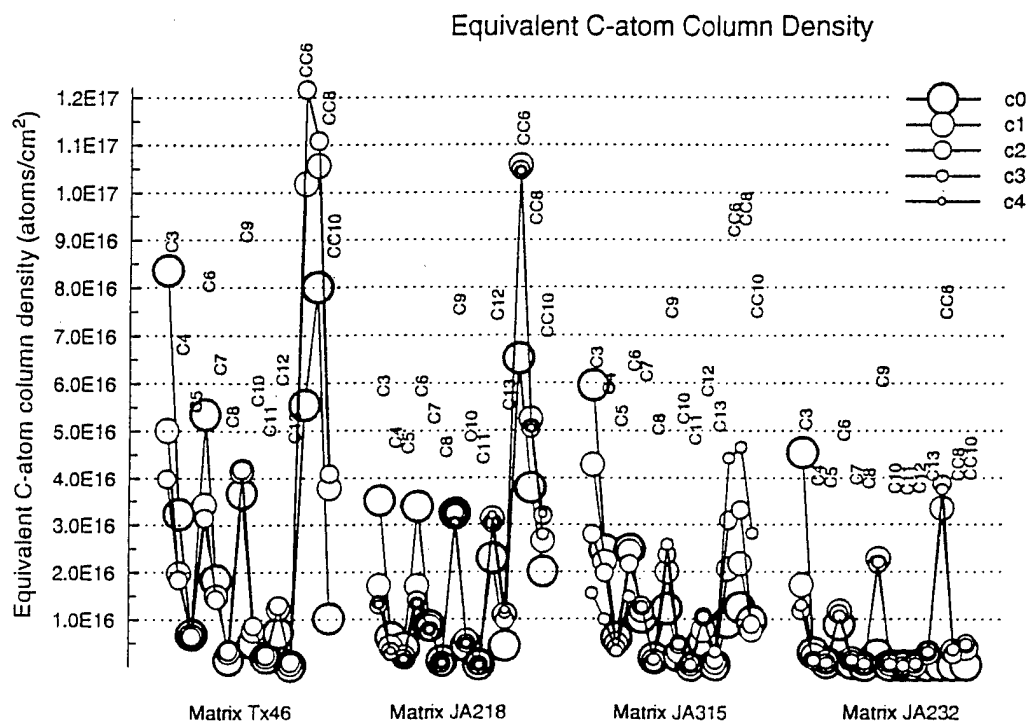
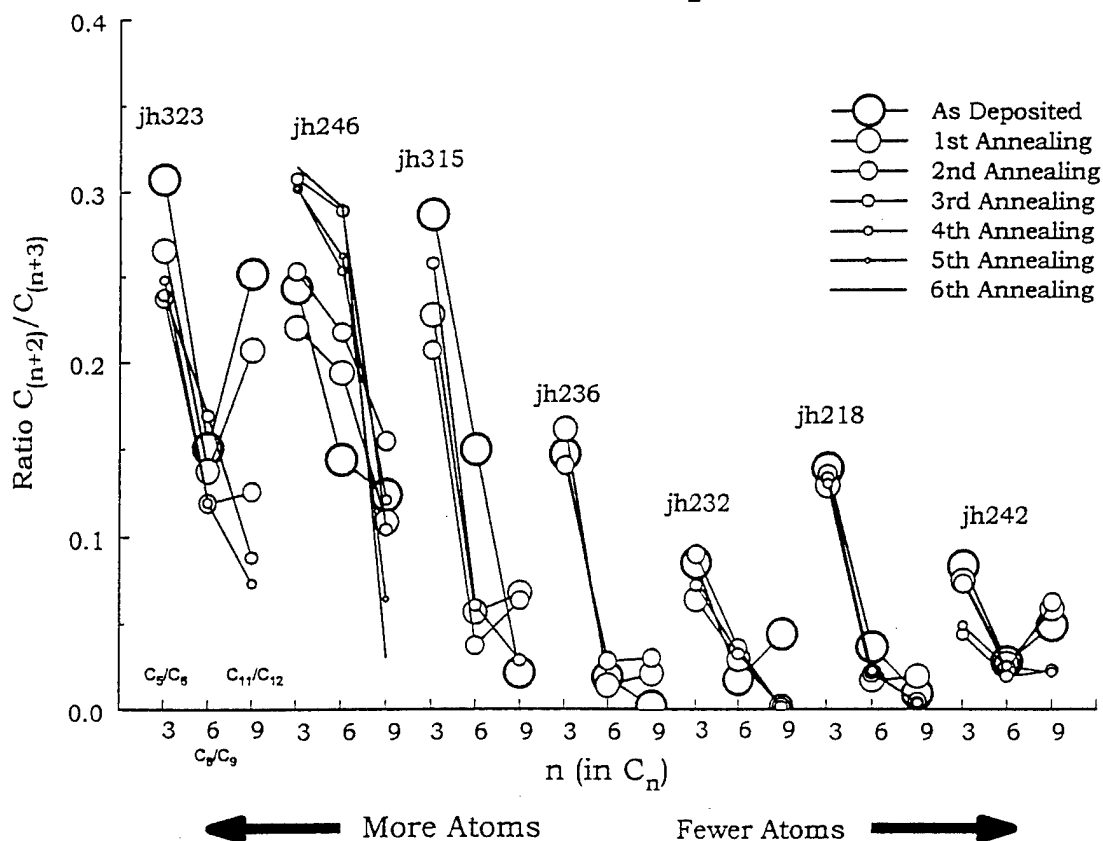
## Comparison of $C_4/C_6$ , $C_7/C_9$ , $C_{10}/C_{12}$ Ratios Obtained for Different Experimental Conditions



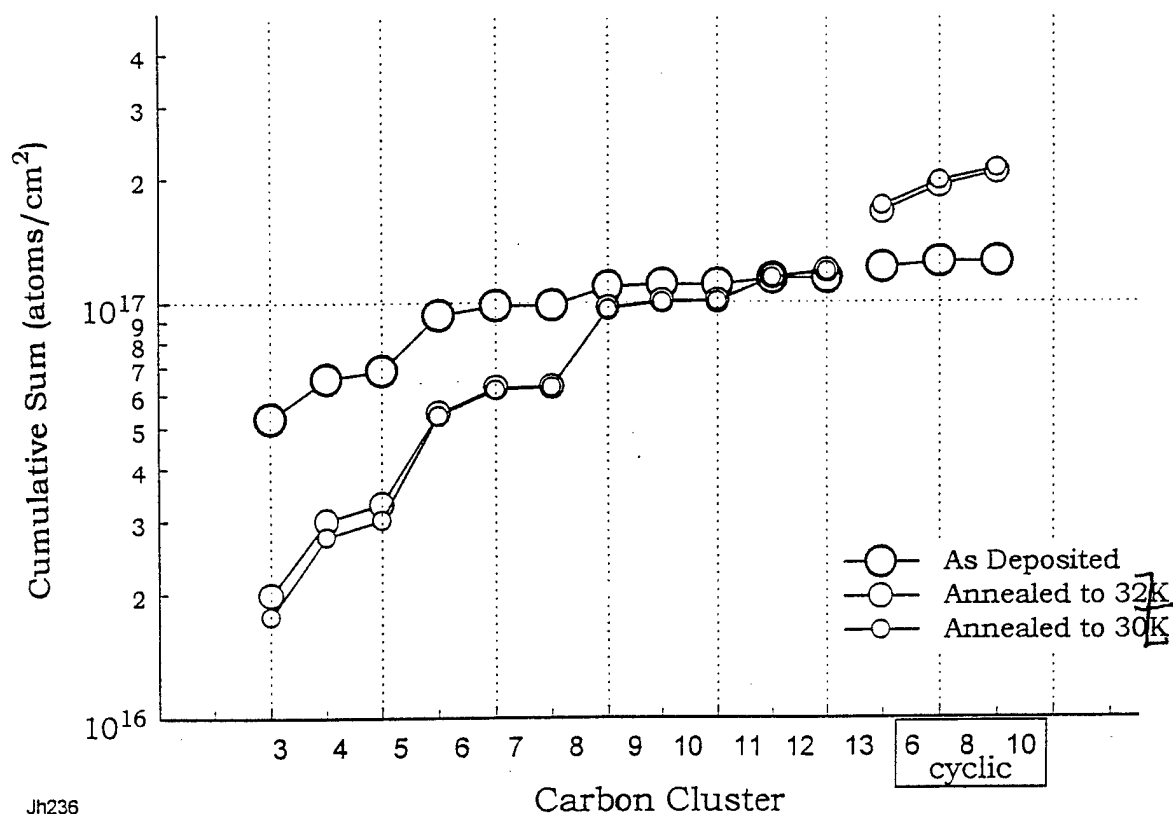
The ratio of the equivalent carbon atom column density for  $n+1$  species ( $n$  as in  $C_n$ ) to the equivalent carbon atom column density for  $n+3$  species indicates how many atoms were available for formation of species like  $C_4$ ,  $C_7$ , and  $C_{10}$ . When the Ta cell was hotter more  $n+1$  species were formed during deposition than when the cell was colder. During annealings there were only minimal changes in the relative order of the ratios for  $C_4/C_6$ ;  $C_7/C_9$ ;  $C_{10}/C_{12}$ . Similar results are noted for  $C(n+2)/C(n+3)$ .

The run with 5%  $H_2$ /95% Ar yields a lower  $C(n+1)/C(n+3)$  ratio than would be expected. The hydrogen may be scavenging atoms.

# Comparison of $C_5/C_6$ , $C_8/C_9$ , $C_{11}/C_{12}$ Ratios Obtained for Different Experimental Conditions



## Cumulative Sum of Equivalent Carbon Atom Density



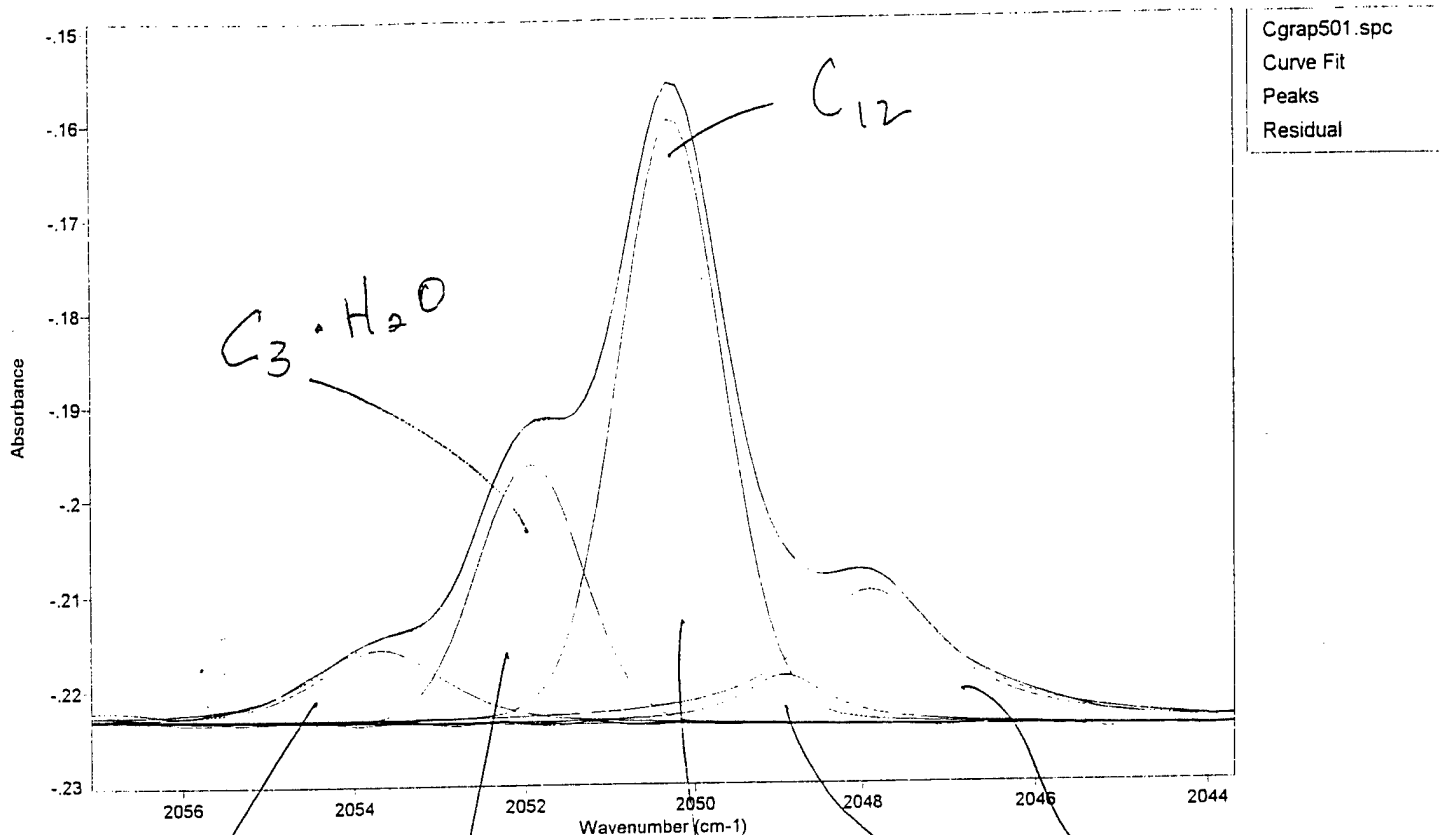
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From successive cluster distributions one can calculate the quantity of carbon species that were not detected in the as-deposited matrix IR spectrum. This increase in the total equivalent carbon atom density is attributed to carbon atoms that are "invisible" to IR and were thus not accounted for in the original IR spectrum.

1= MixG+L (2053.7, .0078452, 1.7666, .44691)      2= MixG+L (2051.9, .027381, 1.4388, 1.00E-06)      3= MixG+L (2050.3, .064283, 1.434, .10607)  
 4= MixG+L (2048.9, .0052507, 1.2237, .99803)      5= MixG+L (2047.9, .014253, 1.9605, .99103)      6= Quadr (-.41118, .000086926, 2.15E-09)

Jin



$\lambda = 2053.7$   
 Peak #  $\rightarrow 1$   
 width  $\rightarrow 1.7$   
 % Lorentzian  $\rightarrow 44\%$

$2051.9$   
 2  
 1.4  
 0%

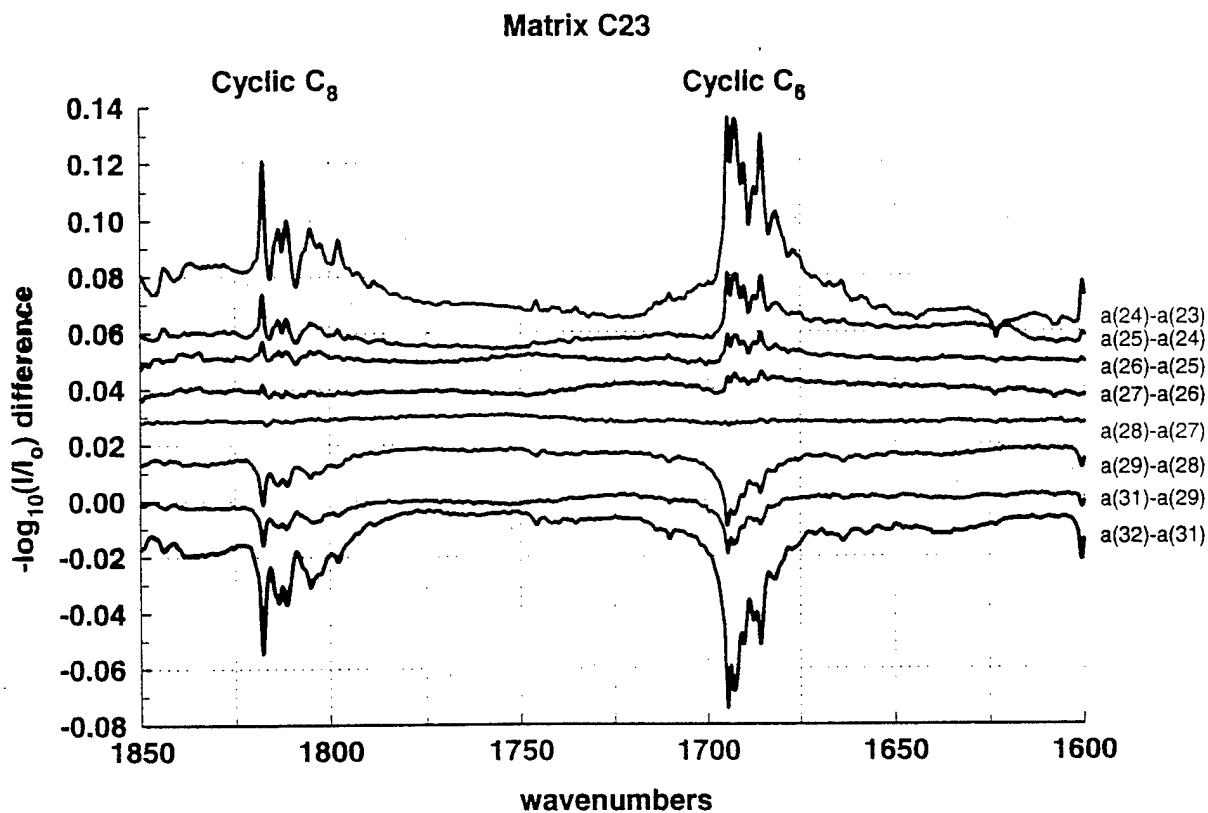
$2050.3$   
 3  
 1.4  
 10%

$2048.9$   
 4  
 1.2  
 99%

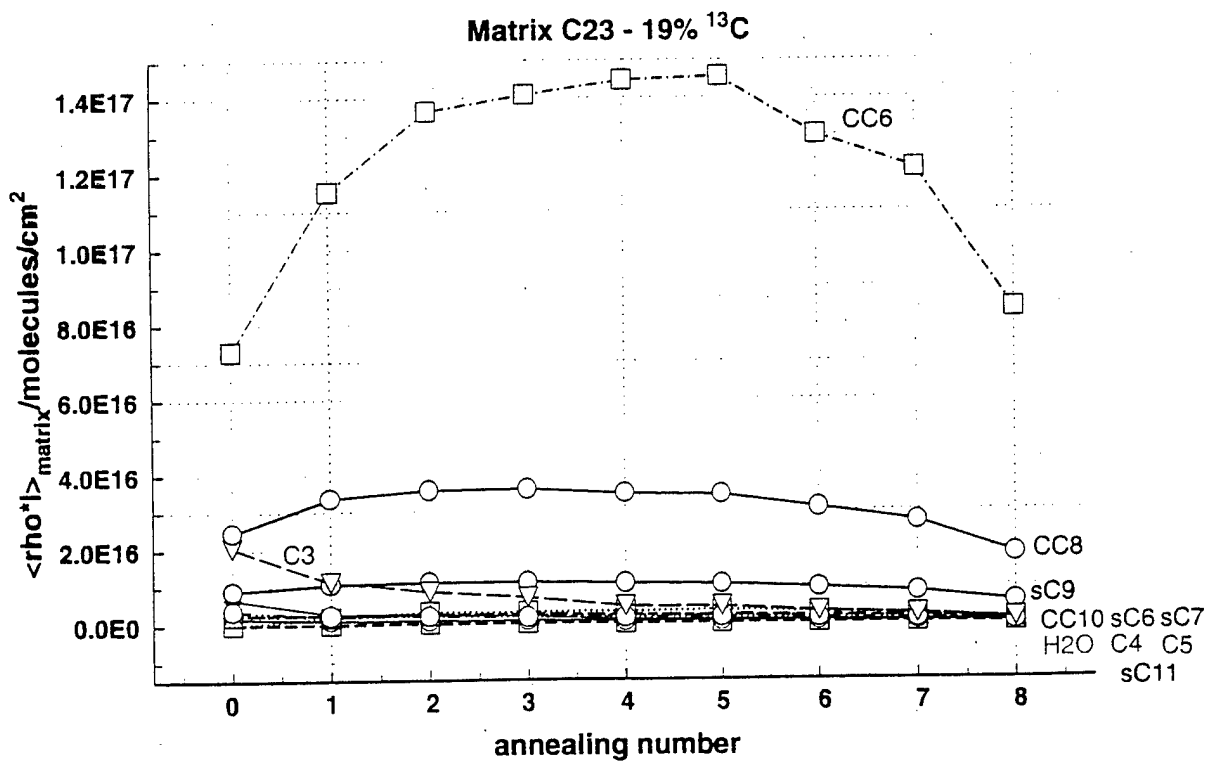
$2047.9$   
 5  
 1.9  
 99%

Hanna Resler -  
 calcd w/ Wtting (3f)

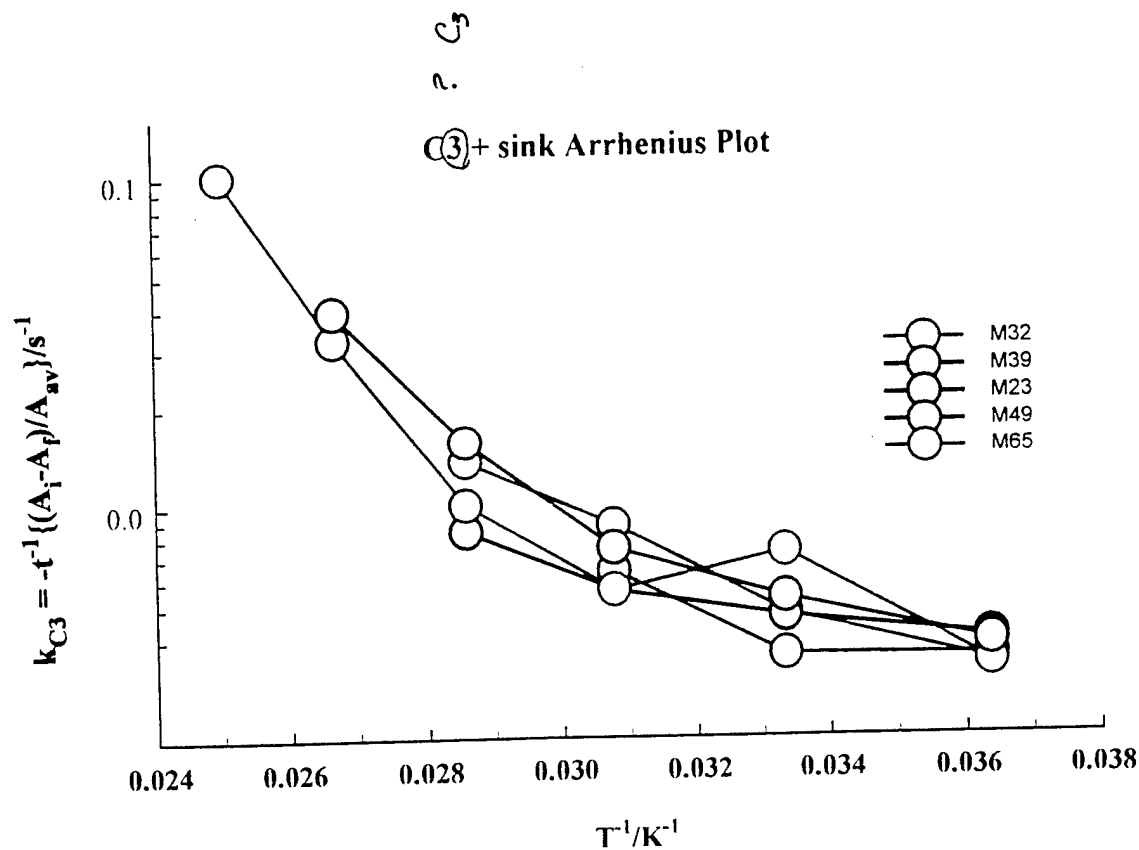




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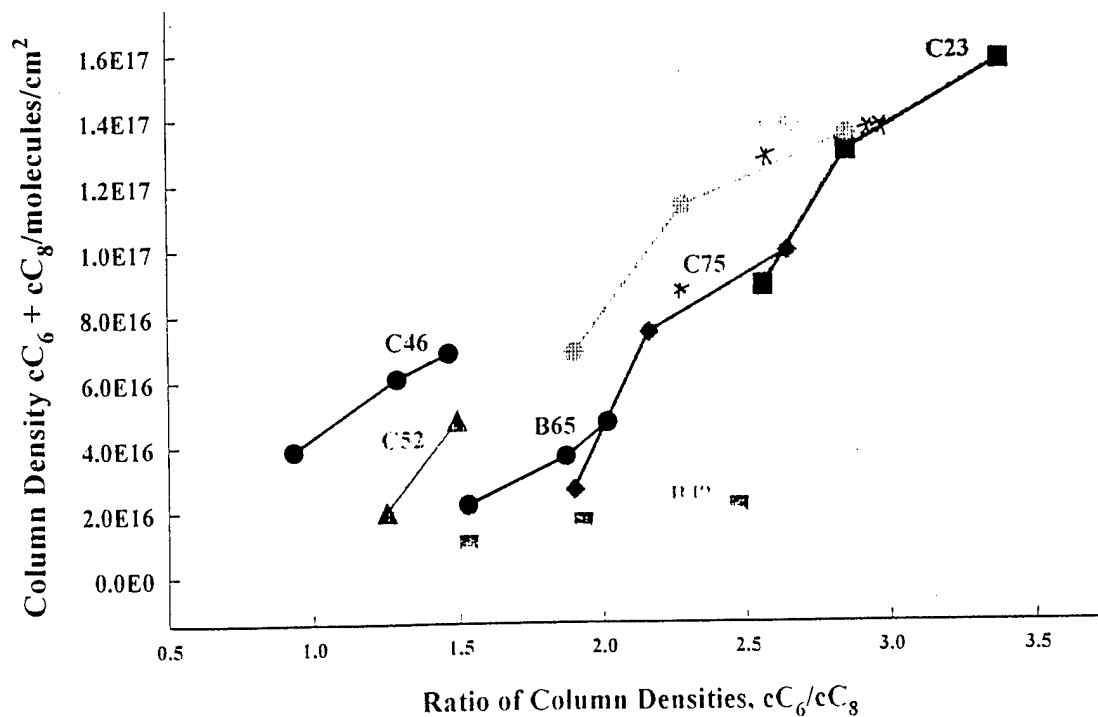


C23c2a.axg

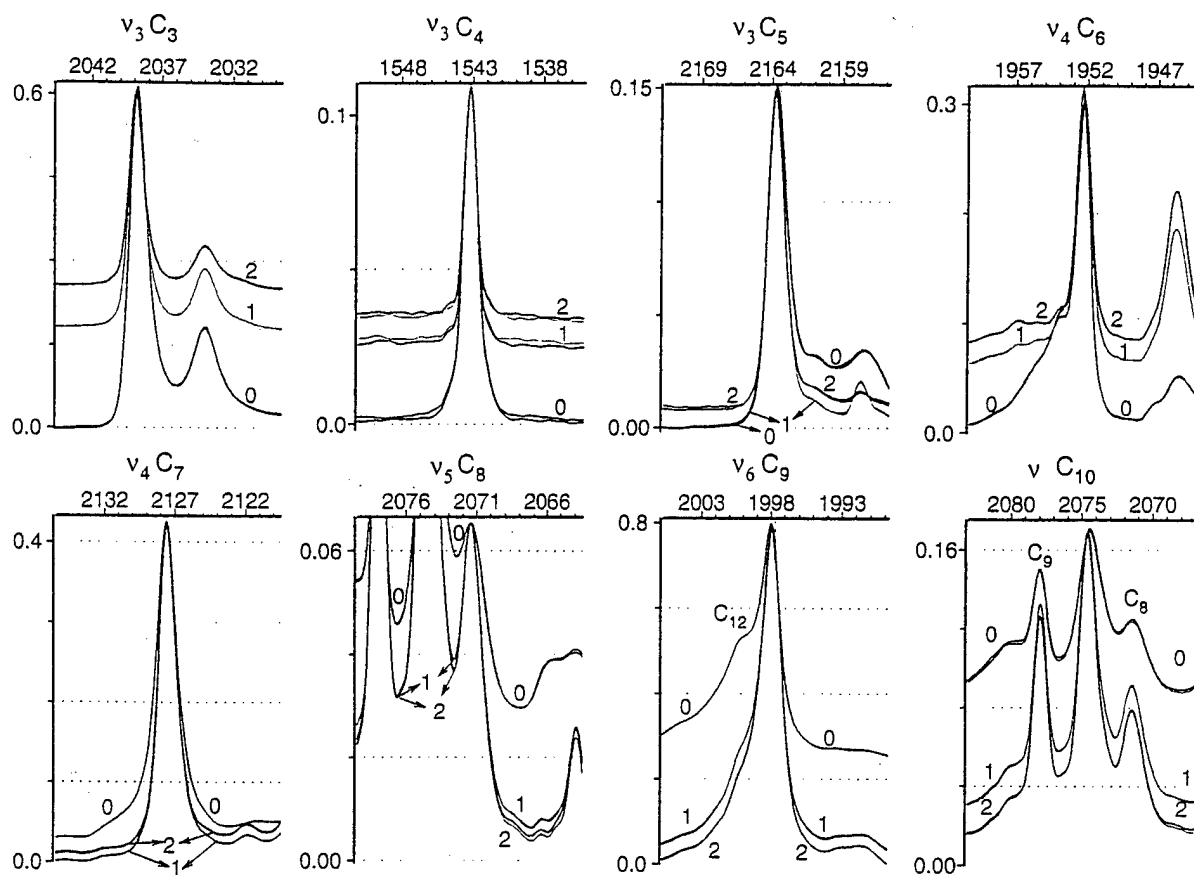


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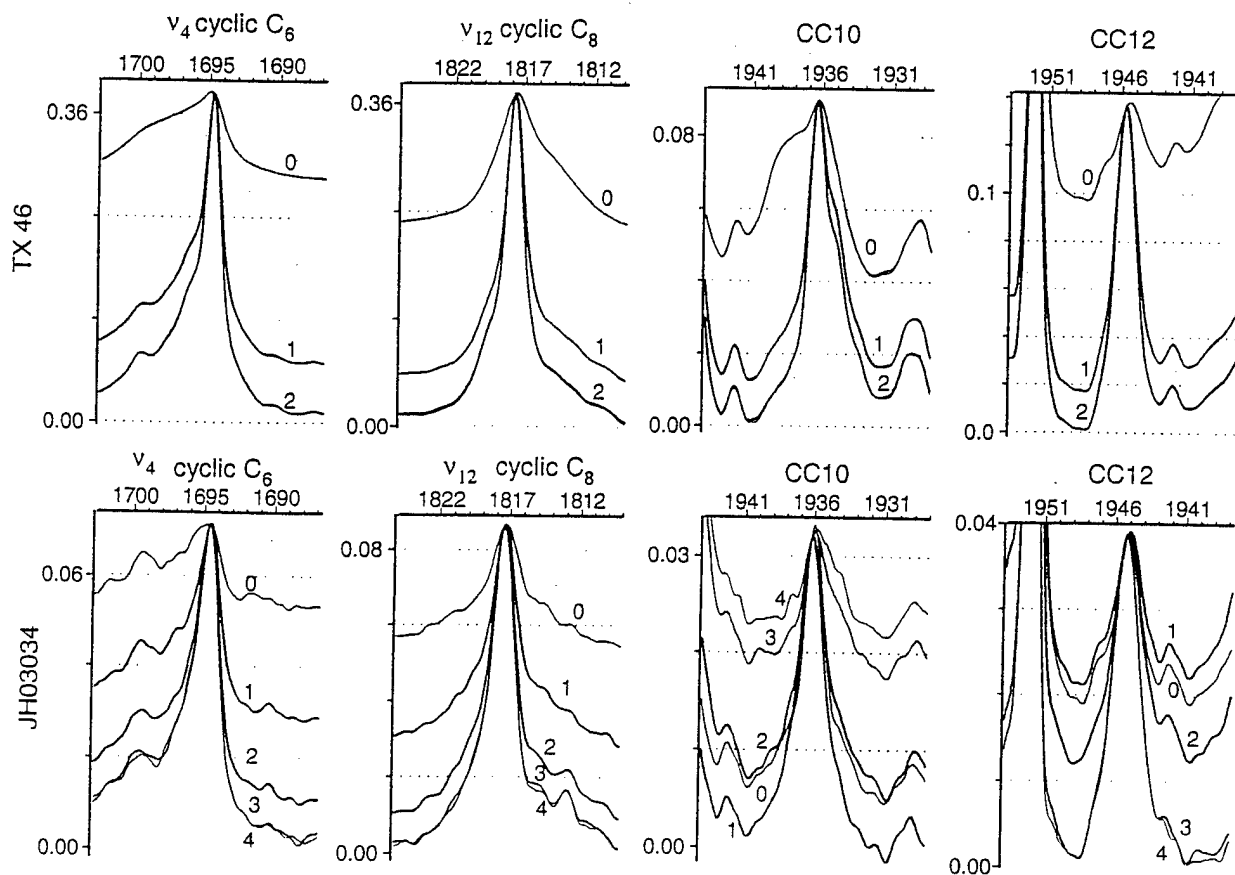
### Cyclic C<sub>6</sub> and Cyclic C<sub>8</sub> in High Carbon Density Hedm Prototypes,



MhiDsmv1.axg



Carbon Matrix (a) -  $C_n$  Clusters



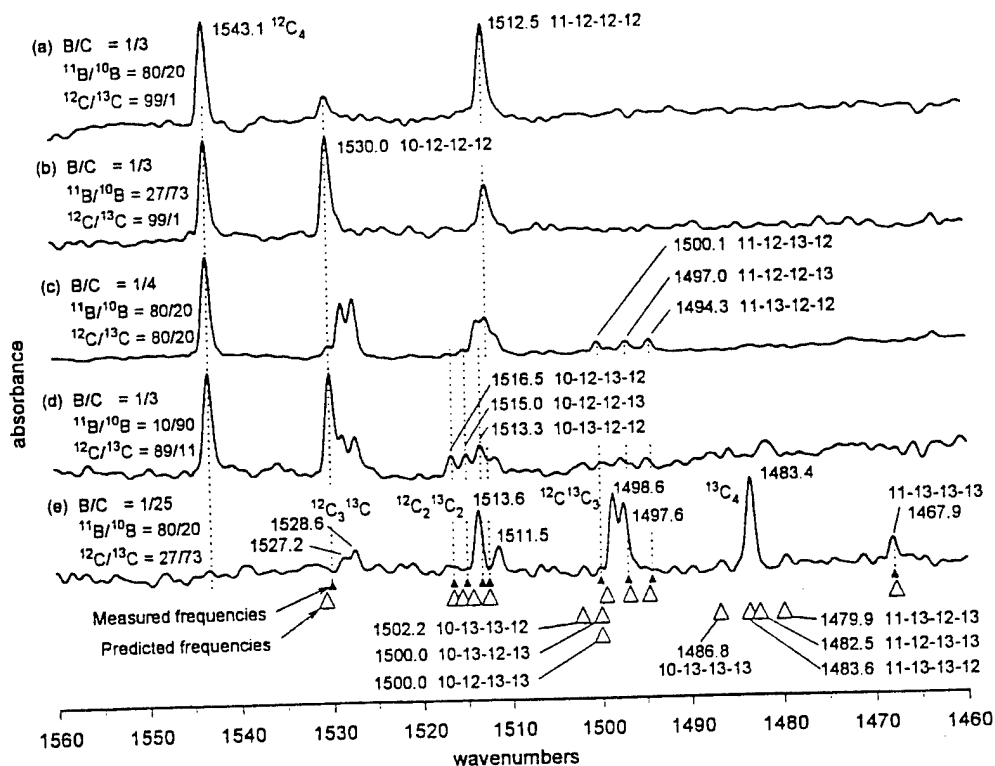


FIG. 1. FTIR spectra of the  $\nu_2(\sigma)$  mode of isotomers of linear  $BC_3$  and the  $\nu_3(\sigma_a)$  mode of isotomers of linear  $C_4$ . The spectra were recorded at 10 K after annealing the matrices with the indicated compositions at 27.5 K for 150 s. The large open triangles at the bottom show the predicted frequencies of linear  $BC_3$  isotomers (as explained in the text) and small filled triangles show measured isotomer frequencies.

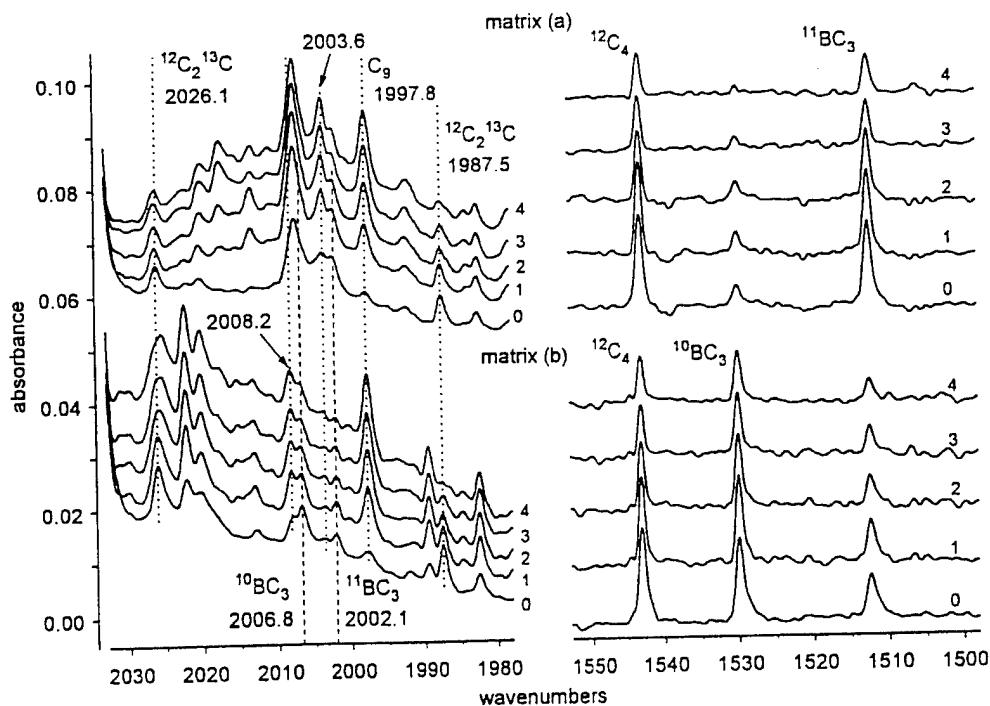


FIG. 2. Spectra obtained from matrix (a) [ $^{11}B/^{10}B = 4/1$ ] and matrix (b) [ $^{11}B/^{10}B = 1/2.7$ ] showing correlation upon annealing of the  $\nu_1(\sigma)$  bands of  $^{10}BC_3$  and  $^{11}BC_3$  at 2066.8 and 2002.1  $cm^{-1}$  with the  $\nu_2(\sigma)$  bands at 1530.0 and 1512.5  $cm^{-1}$ . The spectra labeled "0" are from the originally deposited matrix. Labels "1" to "4" indicate spectra recorded after the first through fourth annealing as follows: (1) 27.5 K for 150 s, (2) 30.0 K for 75 s, (3) 32.5 K for 45 s, (4) 35.0 K for 30 s. Frequency and absorbance scales are identical for all spectra. The plotted absorbance is  $-\log_{10}$  of the transmittance. To facilitate comparisons between matrices, the absorbance of the matrix (b) spectra are multiplied by 1.4.

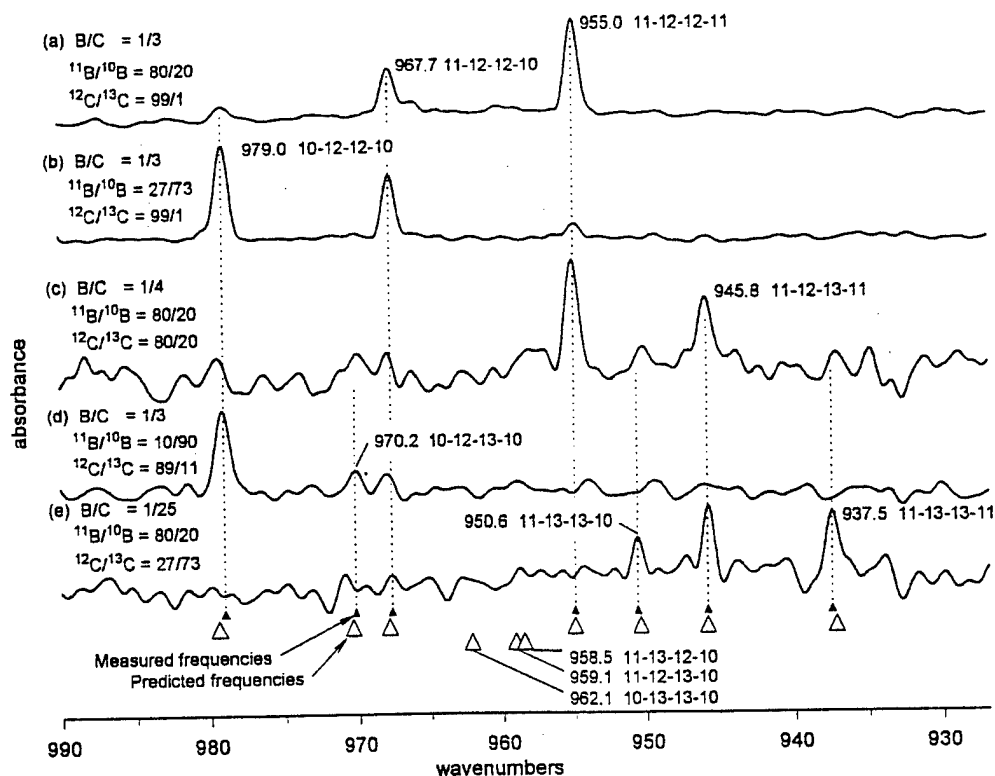


FIG. 3. FTIR spectra of the  $\nu_3(\sigma_u)$  mode of isotopomers of linear BCCB. The spectra were recorded after annealing the matrices with the indicated compositions at 27.5 K for 150 s. The large open triangles at the bottom show the predicted frequencies of linear BCCB isotopomers (as explained in the text) and small filled triangles show measured isotopomer frequencies.

TABLE IV. Experimental  $B_2C_2$  isotopomer frequency patterns. Frequencies and frequency intervals ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) in triplet bands of  $B_2C_2$  isotopomers.

Boron isotope triplets				Carbon isotope triplets			
Isotopomer	Freq.	Intervals		Isotopomer	Freq.	Intervals	
		Short	Long			Short	Long
$^{10}B_2\ ^{12}C_2$	979.0	11.3		$^{10}B_2\ ^{12}C_2$	979.0	8.8	
$^{10,11}B_2\ ^{12}C_2$	967.7	12.7	24.0	$^{10}B_2\ ^{12,13}C_2$	970.2	(7.9) <sup>a</sup>	(16.7) <sup>a</sup>
$^{11}B_2\ ^{12}C_2$	955.0			$^{10}B_2\ ^{13}C_2$	(962.3) <sup>a</sup>		
$^{10}B_2\ ^{12,13}C_2$	970.2	(11.5) <sup>a</sup>		$^{10,11}B_2\ ^{12}C_2$	967.7	(9.0) <sup>a</sup>	
$^{10,11}B_2\ ^{12,13}C_2$	(958.7) <sup>a</sup>	(12.9) <sup>a</sup>	24.4	$^{10,11}B_2\ ^{12,13}C_2$	(958.7) <sup>a</sup>	(8.1) <sup>a</sup>	17.1
$^{11}B_2\ ^{12,13}C_2$	945.8			$^{10,11}B_2\ ^{13}C_2$	950.6		
$^{10}B_2\ ^{13}C_2$	(962.3) <sup>a</sup>	(11.7) <sup>a</sup>		$^{11}B_2\ ^{12}C_2$	955.0	9.2	
$^{10,11}B_2\ ^{13}C_2$	950.6	13.1	(24.8) <sup>a</sup>	$^{11}B_2\ ^{12,13}C_2$	945.8	8.3	17.5
$^{11}B_2\ ^{13}C_2$	937.5			$^{11}B_2\ ^{13}C_2$	937.5		

<sup>a</sup>Frequencies and intervals in parentheses were interpolated or extrapolated from measured quantities.

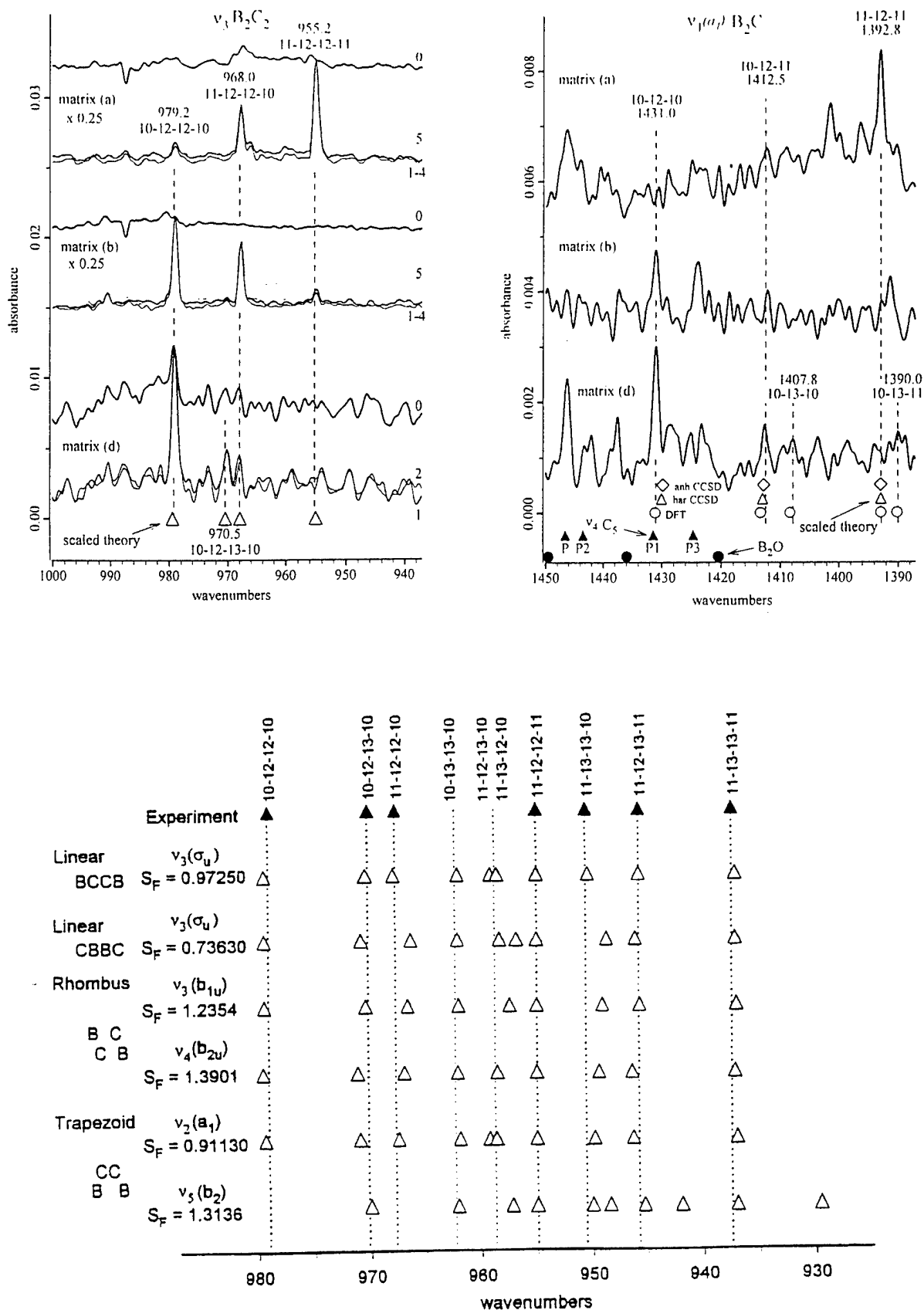
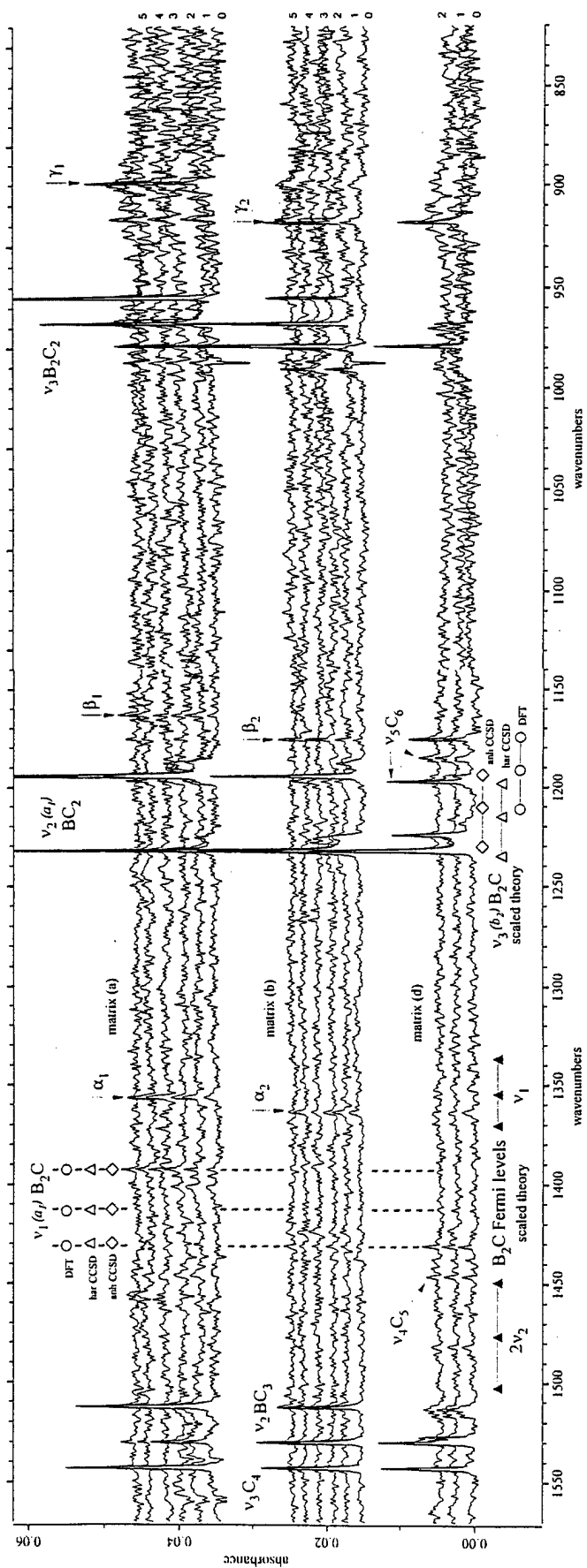
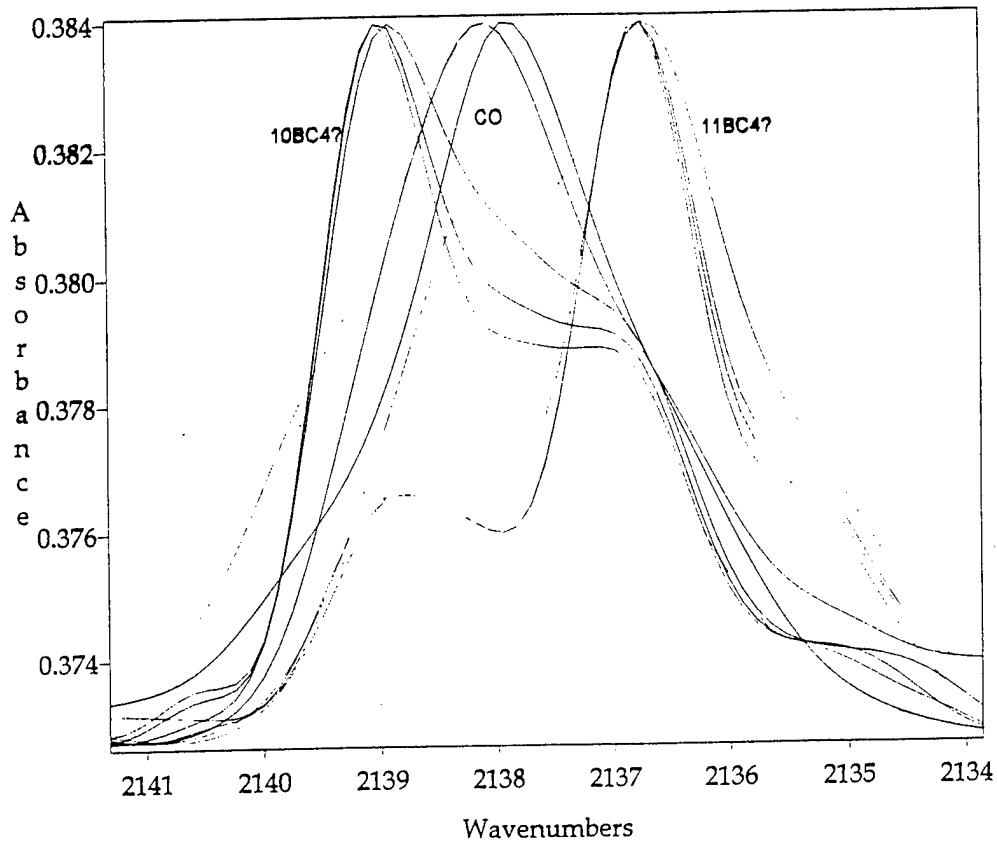
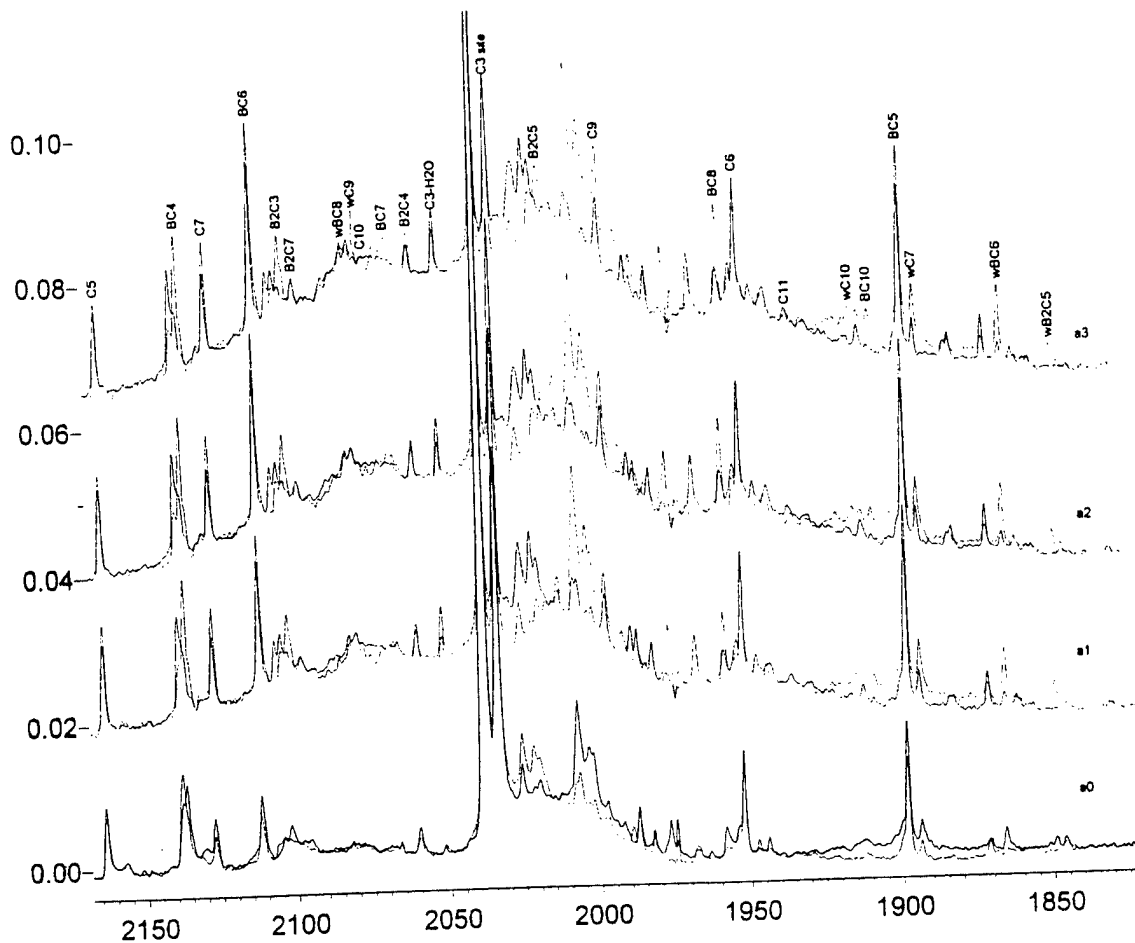
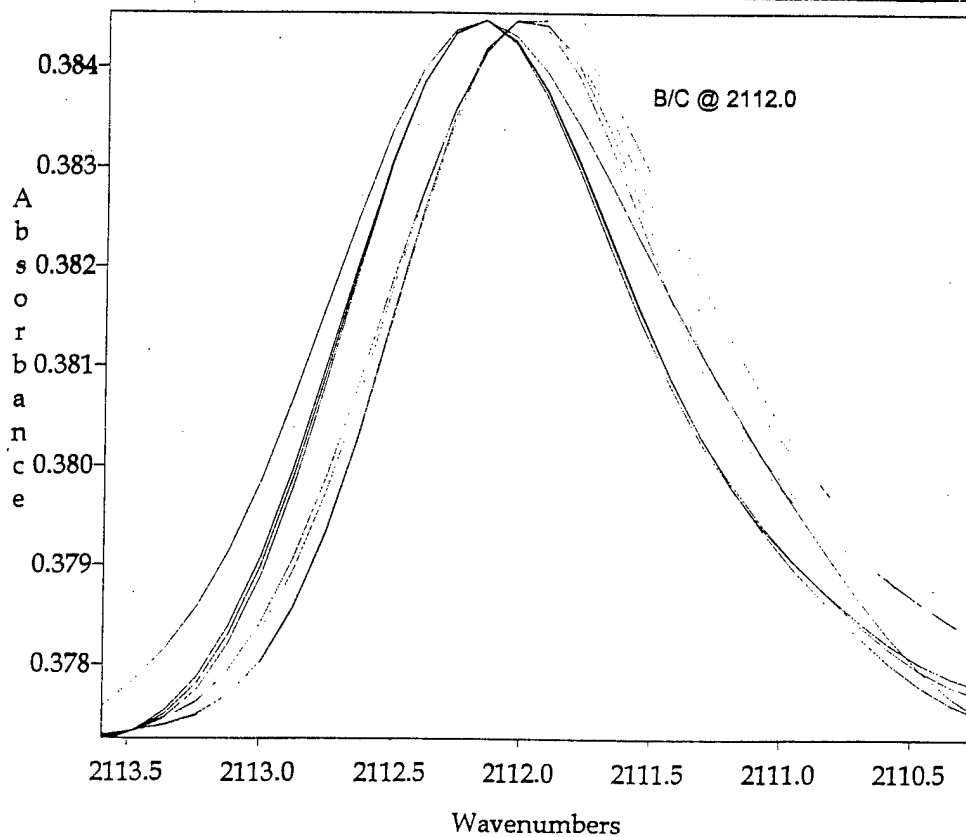
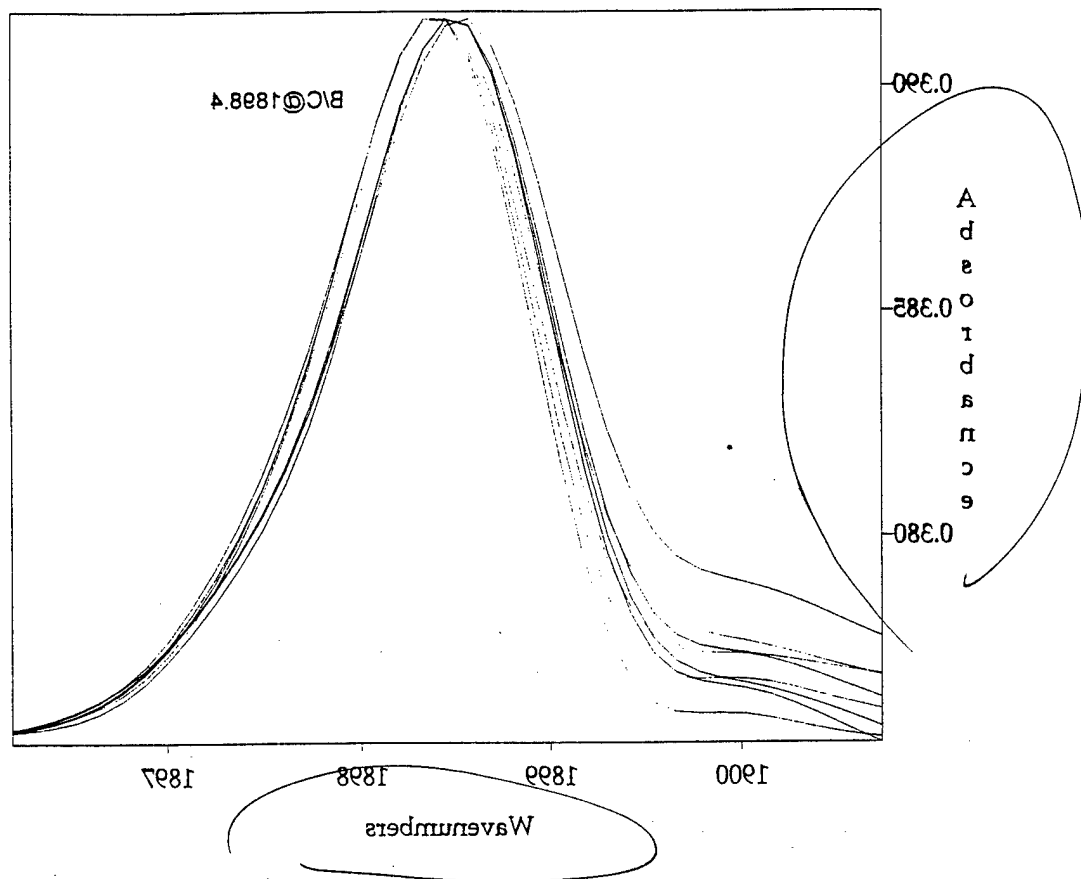


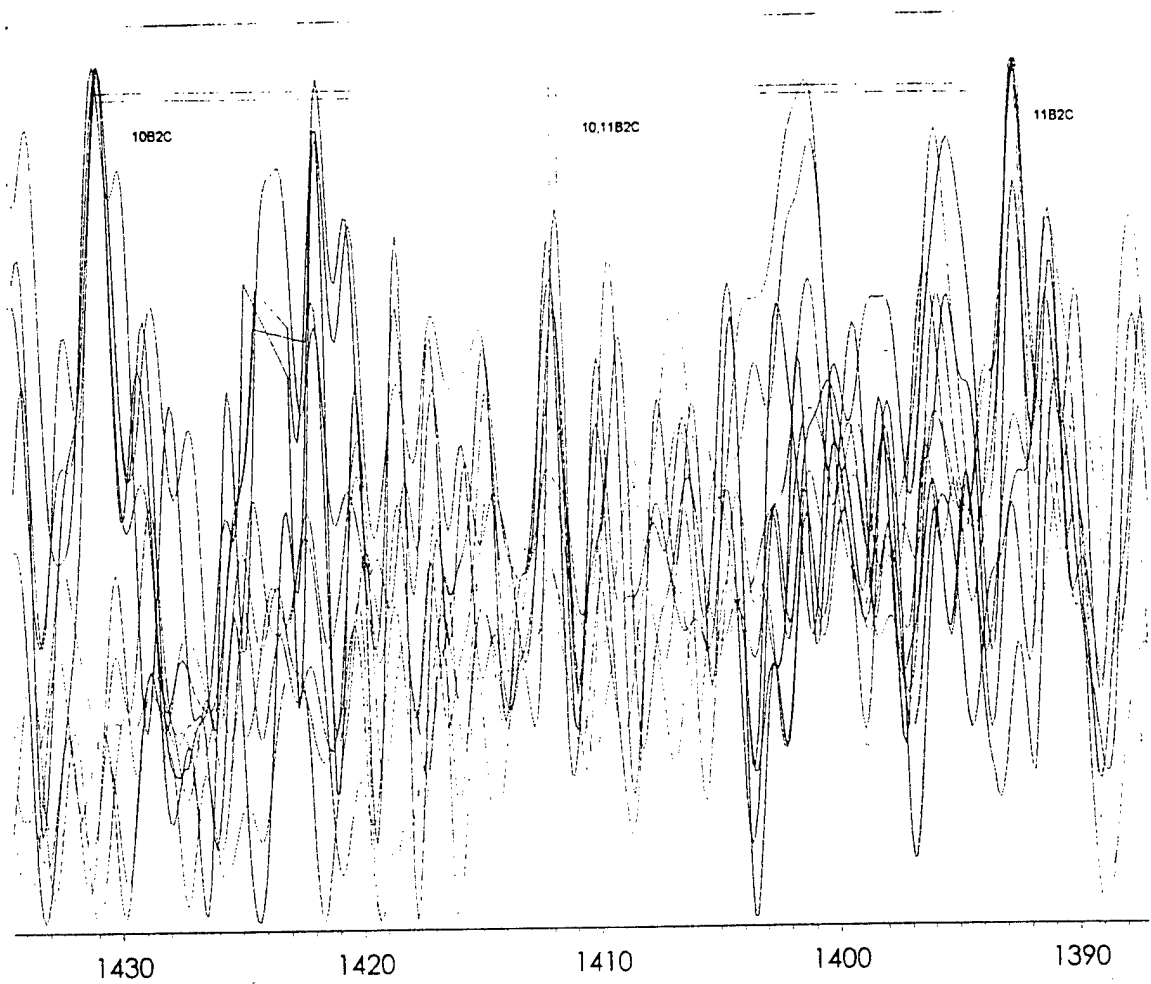
FIG. 4. Comparison of experimental isotopomer frequencies to scaled theoretical isotopomer frequencies for the most intense modes of four  $B_2C_2$  geometries as calculated by Rittby, Ref. 5.











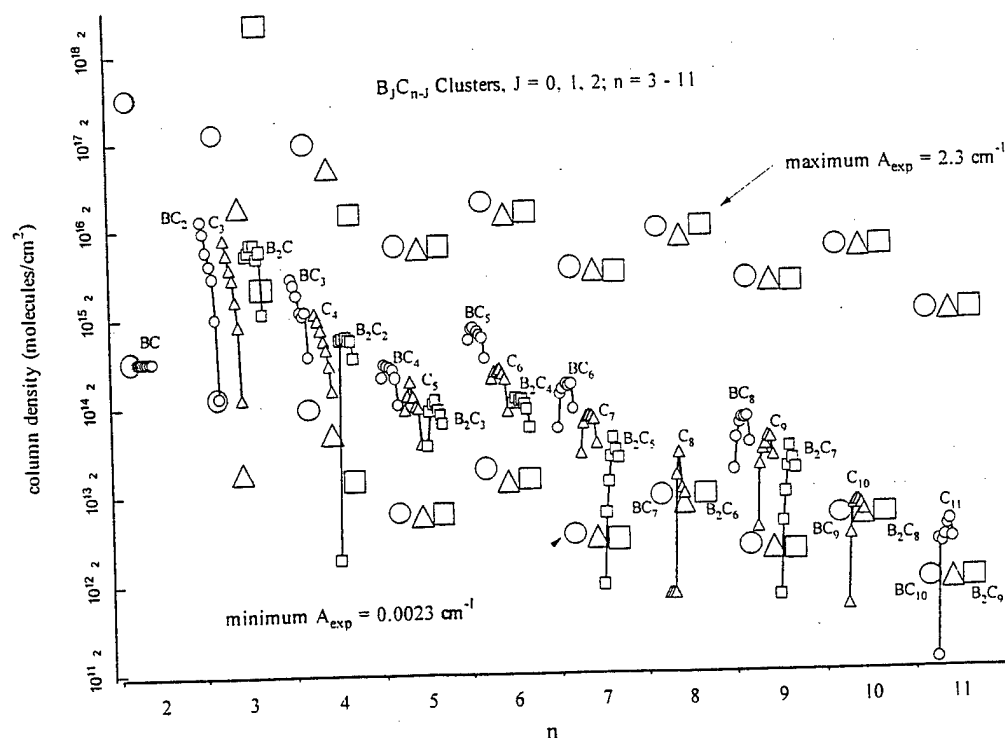
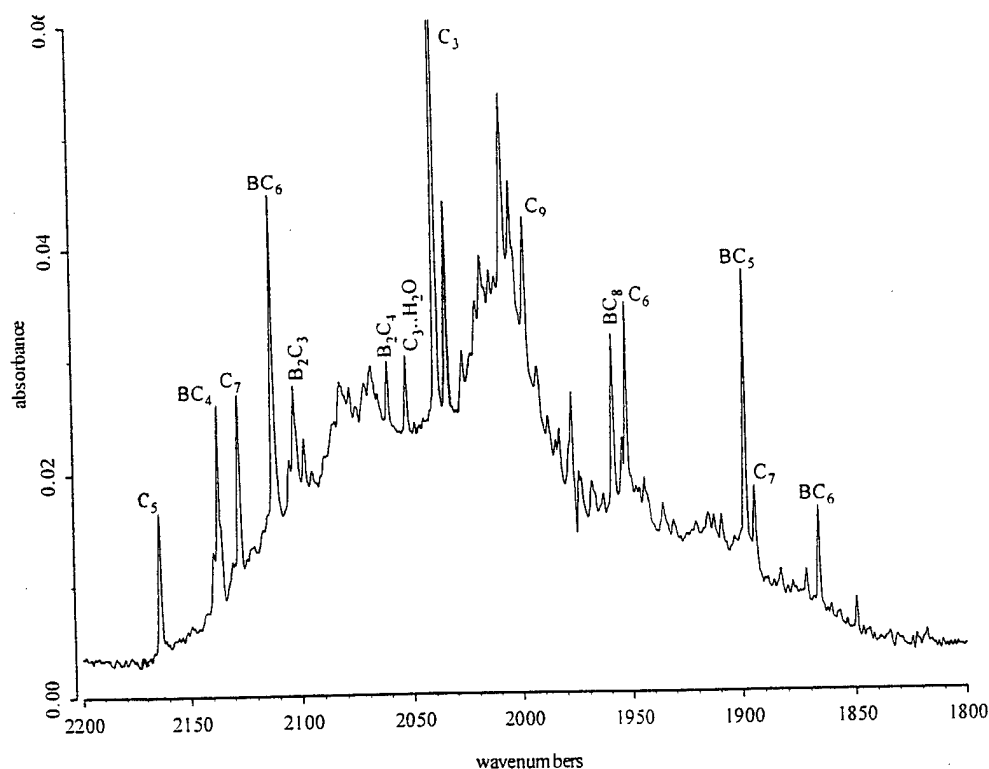


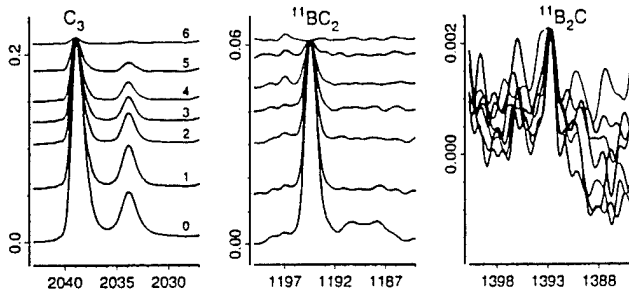
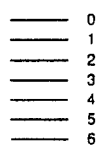
Figure 1. Distribution of  $B_nC_{n-1}$  clusters.  $J = 0, 1, 2; n = 3 - 11$ . Circles, triangles and squares represent  $BC_{n-1}$ ,  $C_n$ , and  $BC_{n-2}$  clusters, respectively. Large symbols denote upper and lower limits of measurement, based on a nominal minimum measurable absorbance of  $0.0023 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , and a maximum absorbance for linearity of Beer's law of  $2.3 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  (1% transmittance). Small symbols denote measured quantities in the initial matrix, and in six annealed matrices. Annealing temperatures and times were (1) 27.5 K/150 s, (2) 30.0 K/75 s, (3) 32.5 K/45 s, (4) 35.0 K/30 s, (5) 37.5 K/20 s, (6) 40.0 K/20 s. The decreases in column density in the fifth and sixth annealing are due to matrix sublimation. Some of the larger clusters ( $n = 8, 10, 11$ ) have not been identified,  $BC_7$ ,  $B_2C_6$ ,  $BC_9$ ,  $B_2C_8$ ,  $BC_{10}$ ,  $B_2C_9$ .

$J = 0 \quad 1 \quad 2$

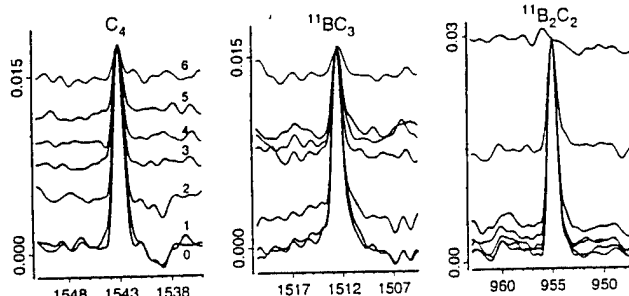
matrix (a):  $^{11}\text{B}/^{10}\text{B} = 80/20$ ,  $^{12}\text{C}/^{13}\text{C} = 99/1$

$n = 3$

annealing

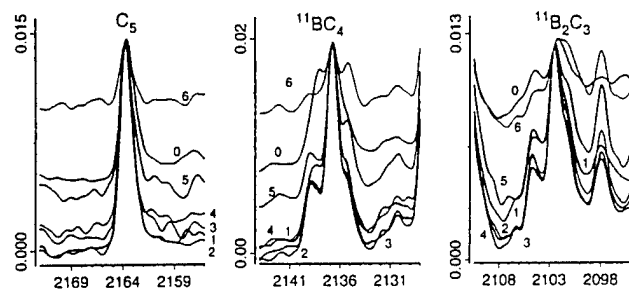
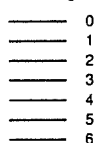


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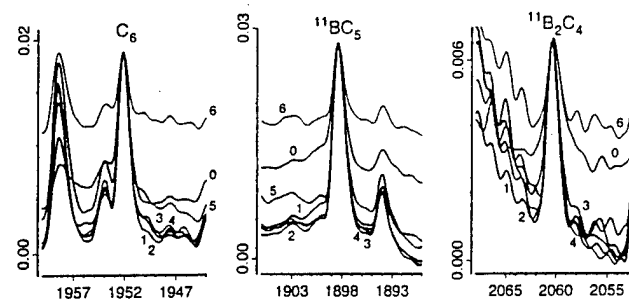


5

annealing

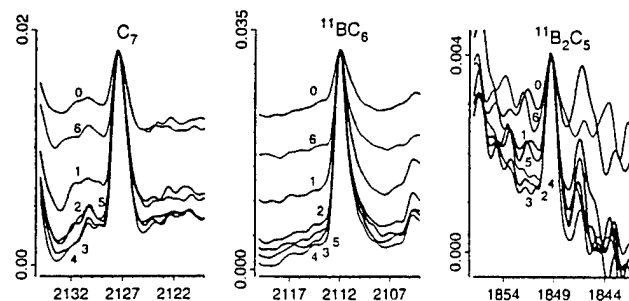
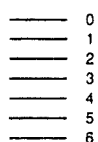


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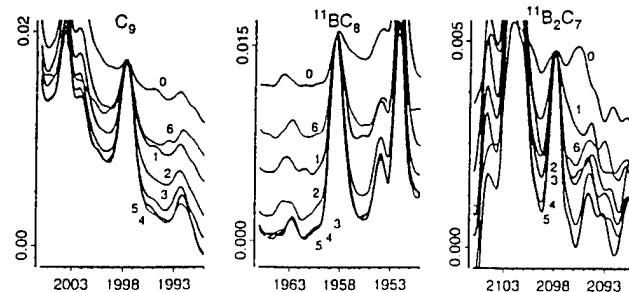


7

annealing



9



## Conclusions

Linear  $C_3$ , cyclic  $BC_2$ , and cyclic  $B_2C$ , constituted about 80% of the total observable boron and carbon in the initially deposited matrix, but  $B_3$  was not observed.

The measured trimer distribution in the initially formed matrices was

$$\rho(C_3) : \rho(BC_2) : \rho(B_2C) : \rho(B_3) \sim 1 : 1.5 : 0.5 : < 0.05.$$

Statistical substitution of  $J$  boron atoms into an  $n$ -atom carbon cluster produces a distribution given by  $\rho(B_J C_{n-J}) / \rho(C_n) = \{n(n-1)\dots(n-J+1)\} / J! [B/C]^J$ . With the experimental  $B/C \sim 1/3$ , the statistical trimer distribution is

$$\rho(C_3) : \rho(BC_2) : \rho(B_2C) : \rho(B_3) \sim 1 : 1 : 0.33 : 0.03.$$

Agreement between distributions implies trimers form by random condensation of well-mixed atoms, uninfluenced by the relative energies of the trimers, the energies of their precursors, or preferential kinetics pathways that could otherwise distort the statistics.

Linear  $C_3$  and cyclic  $BC_2$ , disappeared entirely when the matrices were repeatedly annealed to temperatures between 25 K and 35 K, but cyclic  $B_2C$  was inert.

Linear  $C_4$  and  $BC_3$  (BCCC) disappeared more slowly, and linear  $B_2C_2$  (BCCB) grew to  $\sim 95\%$  of its final value during the first annealing.  $B_2C_2$  was also inert, as  $B_2C$ .

The sources of  $B_2C_2$  are from condensation of atom plus trimer ( $B + BC_2$  but not  $C + B_2C$ ) or dimer + dimer ( $BC + BC$  but not  $B_2 + C_2$ ). Although  $BC$  was not observed, the upper limit of  $\rho(BC)$  is larger than  $\rho(B_2C_2)$  so that  $BC$  cannot be ruled out as a source of  $B_2C_2$ .

The growth of  $B_2C_2$  is conclusive evidence of the presence of  $BC$  and/or  $B$  in the originally deposited matrix in an amount at least as great as the growth of  $B_2C_2$ .

Linear  $C_5$ ,  $BC_4$  (BCCCC) and  $B_2C_3$  (BCCCB) and larger linear clusters ( $B_J C_{n-J}$ ,  $5 < n < 11$ ,  $J = 0, 1, 2$ ), all grew upon annealing.

The sources of  $B_2C_3$  are dimer + trimer ( $BC + BC_2$  but not  $B_2 + C_3$ ) and atom + tetramer ( $B + BC_3$  but not  $C + B_2C_2$ ).

Since  $\rho(BC_2) \sim 5\rho(BC_3)$  in the initially deposited matrix, the  $BC + BC_2$  source is dominant. Growth of  $B_2C_3$  conclusively establishes the presence of  $BC$  in the matrix in an amount at least as great as the amount by which  $B_2C_3$  grows.

Growth of  $BC_4$  occurs primarily by  $BC + C_3$  rather than  $B + C_4$  or  $C + BC_3$  because  $\rho(C_3) \sim 10\rho(C_4)$  and  $\rho(C_3) \sim 2\rho(BC_3)$ . Growth of  $C_5$  occurs by  $C + C_4$  and  $C_2 + C_3$ , which establishes the presence of  $C$  and/or  $C_2$  in the original matrix in an amount at least as great as  $C_5$  growth.

Disappearance of triangular  $BC_2$  requires breaking of one of its B-C bonds when one of its carbon atoms is attacked. The major reorganization of electronic energy involved in opening the ring appears to occur with little ( $< \sim 3 \text{ kcal mol}^{-1}$ ) or no energy barrier, which makes this small molecule a candidate for an interesting *ab-initio* study of unusual reactivity at low temperature.

## Conclusions

1.  $C_3$  is linear but  $BC_2$ ,  $B_2C$  and  $B_3$  are cyclic.
2.  $n > 3$ ;  $J = 0, 1, 2$  clusters are linear. Boron atoms cap the ends of linear chains.
3.  $J = 0, 1, 2$  substitution in  $n \geq 5$  clusters does not significantly affect IR intensities.
4. For  $n \geq 5$  the absorption intensity of even  $n$  clusters is two to three times smaller than that of odd  $n$  clusters.
5.  $B_2C_2$  grew most dramatically upon annealing.  $BC$  was not detected. Its upper limit column density is comparable to that of  $n = 4$  clusters.  $B_2C_2$  sources may be  $2BC$  or  $B + BC_2$  but  $C + B_2C$  does not form  $B_2C_2$ .
6.  $n = 3, 4$ ;  $J = 0, 1$  clusters disappear upon annealing but  $J = 2$  clusters either grow or remain unchanged. Capping the ends of clusters with boron seems to render them inert to further condensation.
7. Statistical cluster distributions are apparent in  $n = 4$  and 5 clusters.  $B_2C$  yields are too high and  $B_2C_{n-2}$  yields are too low in larger  $n \geq 6$  clusters.
8.  $n \geq 5$  clusters grow upon annealing and larger clusters grow more than smaller clusters.

### Conclusions from Carbon HEDM Research

Quantitative analysis - Establishes HEDM density, distribution of carbon clusters, heat of formation of HEDM. Enables tracking of growth and decay of carbon clusters - carbon bookkeeping - quantification of "invisible carbon", C-atom and  $C_2$ .

Highest density matrix (equivalent C-atom density  $\sim 1$  mole percent in argon) contained 40% "invisible" carbon ( $C$ ,  $C_2$ ), determined by tracking the growth of the "visible" (measurable) carbon to a constant composition after repeated annealing. Main product of condensation is cyclic  $C_6$ .

Yields of cyclic- $C_6$  are a factor of two larger than the combined yield of all other clusters in the fully condensed, highest density matrices. Cyclic- $C_6$  is the dominant condensation product.

Knudsen oven produces  $\sim 80\%$   $C_3$  and  $\sim 10\%$  each of  $C_2$  and C-atom (by mass).

Laval oven with  $\Delta T \sim 600$  K (between graphite surface and orifice) produces  $\sim 5\%$   $C_3$  and  $C_2$  and  $\sim 90\%$  C-atom. C-atoms production by our oven (relative to  $C_3$ ) is enhanced by higher temperature, which is accompanied by higher  $\Delta T$ .

Substrate must be shielded from oven to prevent condensation during deposition.

Higher temperature oven places higher heat load on substrate, which promotes condensation.

Obtained higher density matrices by decreasing argon flux and maintaining oven flux. However, condensation was also increased.

One experiment with argon/5%  $H_2$  caused nearly complete loss of  $C_{n+1}$  and  $C_{n+2}$  relative to  $C_{n+3}$ , suggesting that  $H_2$  scavenges C-atoms efficiently during co-deposition.